

August 6th – The Spirit of Adoption

“For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father.’” (Romans 8:15)

We live in a world that has legalized infanticide through the grizzly practice of abortion. Since 1973, over 60 million babies have been legally aborted in the US alone. That is a tragedy – not only because abortion is murder in the eyes of God, but because there are so many loving adults that are willing to adopt the children that we abort. The children that are not murdered are often adopted into families where there are showered with love and given the opportunity to pursue their dreams.

Through adoption, a person enters into a new family. Maybe you didn’t realize it, but when you placed your faith in Jesus you were adopted as well. The fact is that everyone of us was conceived in sin and born outside the family of God. Maybe you’ve heard it implied that every human being is a child of God, but that simply is not true. All of us were born outside of God’s family, but through faith in Jesus we were adopted into the family of God. God’s family includes every person that has trusted in Jesus.

Today’s verse explains it all – through faith in Jesus a person receives a Spirit, but not just any spirit. We certainly didn’t receive “the spirit of bondage” when we were born again, causing us to live in a state of perpetual fear. Through faith in Jesus we have received “the Spirit of adoption” – the Holy Spirit. By the Spirit’s indwelling presence, all God’s children can cry out “Abba (Aramaic for “daddy”), Father.” Through faith in Jesus, your Creator became your Father by the Spirit of adoption.