

“Adoption: The Benefit for the Doubt “  
Ephesians 1:3–14

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## Ephesians 1:3–14

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ

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10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, 12 so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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The text is a breakdown of the Beauty of God's Plan for Man that should serve as an encouragement against doubt:

**WHO:** God

**WHAT:** Chose us, predestined us, adopted us, and made us holy, gained an inheritance, unite all things in Him, sealed with the Holy Spirit as a guarantee

**WHERE:** In Him

**WHEN:** *Established:* before the world began;  
*Experienced:* when you heard and believed the gospel of your salvation

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**WHY:** Love, that we could be holy, according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace

**HOW:** through Christ by what he has already done

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“**Adopted**”- υἱοθεσίαν (huiiothesian/hwee·oth·es·ee·an)

*Adoption* - the giving to any one the name and place and privileges of a child was not so by birth.

**Romans 8:14–17**—“For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

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**Romans 8:23**—“And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”

**Galatians 4:3–7**—“In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.”

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**Again, so many of us don't walk in the full expression of salvation because we don't realize the full extent of salvation.**

**How Does All this Apply To My Life? (i.e. How Does This Fact of Adoption Effect My Everyday Life):**

1. The selection of God in adopting you should elevate your appreciation of your salvation.
2. Your worth is rooted in what God has done not what you do or what you have done.

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3. If you are adopted, you can't worry about your eternal security because the verification for your salvation is found in the character of God to choose you and adopt you based on His purpose not your performance.

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4. Being holy and blameless are at heart of God's desire for you. This should dramatically increase your desire to live in a holy and blameless way. You can now have a holy life because it was what God's purpose entails.

**Romans 8:14** – “All who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.”

5. Holiness is not what we provide back to God as a way to please Him but it's what He provides for us.

6. You should live in light of the fact that you possess the privilege of adoption.

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**Galatians 4:6–7** - “Because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.”

**Romans 8:16–17** - “The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.”

7. In being reminded of the cost should cause your affections toward God not to be lost.  
(Realize your adoption was expensive.)

**Gal. 4:5**-“... God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.”

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