

ADOPTED INTO GOD'S FAMILY

1 John 3:1-3

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: Adopting a child is nothing new and it is a most admirable thing for someone to do. God also adopts children into His heavenly family. Every believer in Jesus Christ has been and will be adopted by God into His family. Adoption is an act of love no doubt and God loved mankind so much that He made a way for everyone who wants to can be adopted into His Family. God's love for mankind is without cause, without beginning, without condition, without change, without end, it is free, indestructible and it is everlasting. By birth, people are all the children of Adam, fallen, depraved and spiritually dead. By their deeds, people show themselves to be evil, sinful, deceitful and wicked and by nature, everyone is a child of wrath but by God's grace those who believe in Jesus are adopted and become the children of God and it is all done through God's love and grace.

I. WHY DOES GOD ADOPT ANYONE INTO HIS FAMILY?

1. *Ephesians 1:3-6*

- God chose to love mankind and adopt those who would respond to His love and grace.

2. *Galatians 4:1-7*

- The only difference between the children of God and the children of wrath is the love and grace of God.

3. *1 Corinthians 4:7*

II. WHO CAN MAKE A PERSON A CHILD OF GOD?

1. The preacher has no power to make anyone a child of God.

2. The church has no power to make anyone a child of God.

3. No one can make him/herself a child of God by his/her works or his/her free-will.

4. The only way one can be brought into the family of God is by the power of God.

5. *Jeremiah 3:19*

- Adoption is God's work. One cannot become a child of God except by the power and grace of God.

III. HOW DOES GOD ADOPT SOMEONE INTO HIS FAMILY?

1. God doesn't have to do anything for He is totally free and sovereign and can do whatever He desires to do and in whatever manner He wants to.

- *John 1:12-13*

- God brings grace into a believing person's soul.

- Grace has nothing to do with one's heritage.

- Grace does not come from friends or relatives.

- Grace does not come by one wanting it.

- Grace comes only by God, at His time and in His manner, to whomever He pleases.

- To believe on the Lord Jesus Christ is to receive the Lord Jesus Christ.

- As one's Lord.

- As one's Redeemer.

- As one's Savior.

- As one's Righteousness.

- As soon as one believes in the Lord Jesus Christ, God gives that person the right, power, authority and privilege of being His child.

IV. WHY DOESN'T THE WORLD UNDERSTAND GOD'S CHILDREN?

1. Children of God will always be misunderstood and misrepresented by those who are not God's Children.
 - Their doctrine, devotion and desires just won't be understood by the world.
 - *"...Therefore, the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not..."*

V. THERE ARE MANY BLESSED PRIVILEGES OF BEING ADOPTED INTO GOD'S FAMILY

1. There is an assurance of God's infinite, everlasting love.
 - *John 17:23-26*
2. God's Children have the Holy Spirit of God.
 - *Romans 8:14-16; Galatians 4:6*
 - The Holy Spirit teaches, guides and seals the Children of God.
3. There is the discipline which God will exercise on His Children.
 - *Hebrews 12:5-11*
 - God's discipline and chastening is a blessing which will:
 - Prove one's faith.
 - Strengthen one's faith.
 - Purify one's faith.
 - Separate one from the world.
4. There is the assurance that one day every child of God will be like Jesus Christ.
 - *Romans 8:29*
5. Being adopted into God's Family makes one an heir of God and joint-heir with Jesus Christ.
 - The child of God's inheritance is of pure, free Grace to be found in Jesus Christ.
 - Every believer in Jesus Christ has it.
 - Jesus Christ purchased it and claimed it for every believer in Him.
 - God's Grace has made the believer worthy of it.
 - It is a glorious grace.
 - *Revelation 7:16-17*

CONCLUSION:

1. All who come to the Lord Jesus Christ shall be heirs of God, adopted Children of God.
 - Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - Confess the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - Live for the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - Live with the Lord Jesus Christ forever.

2. ARE YOU A CHILD OF GOD?