

CHRISTIANS, MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD

Ephesians 2:19

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: Just about everybody is familiar with the term "household" which is a term used to designate those living together under the same "roof," those of a same location, those of a same family, living in the same house. Not everybody, however is a part of the household of God. Just what makes up the "household" of God? Who are those who are a part of the "household" of God?

I. THE CHURCH IS CALLED GOD'S HOUSE

1. The word "house" is used to designate families. (Acts 10:2; Hebrews 11:7; Luke 1:27)
2. "Church" referred to as the "House of God" means the "Family of God." (1 Timothy 3:15; Hebrews 3:6; Ephesians 2:19; 3:15)

II. OUTSTANDING FEATURES OF THE CHURCH - GOD'S FAMILY

1. God is the Father (Ephesians 3:14; 4:6; Matthew 23:9; 1 Corinthians 8:6)
2. Jesus Christ is the Son over the House of God. (Hebrews 3:6)
 - Christians are the brothers and sisters of Jesus. (Hebrews 21:12; Matthew 23:8; 25:40)
3. All Christians are God's Children.
 - They are Sons and Heirs. (Romans 8:15-16; Galatians 4:7)
 - All are in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Galatians 3:26)
 - They are the Children of God as compared to children of Satan. (1 John 3:10)
 - They are the "Church of God the Father. (1 Thessalonians 1:1)
4. The Church is therefore:
 - All of God's Children are in God's Family.
 - God's Family is the Church.
 - All of God's Children are IN the Church.

III. THE BLESSINGS OF BEING IN GOD'S FAMILY

1. Every member of God's Family can approach Him as his/her Father. (Matthew 6:6-9; Ephesians 3:14)
2. Jesus Christ is the Family Member's Great High Priest and advocate and defends the believer's cause. (Hebrews 4:14; 10:21; 1 John 2:1)
3. The Holy Spirit leads and guides every Family member. (Romans 8:14)
 - Because he/she is a Family member. (Galatians 4:6)
 - To walk by the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:16)
 - To know the Truth. (John 1:17; 1 John 5:7)
4. The Heavenly Father provides for His Children. (Romans 8:32; James 1:17; Matthew 6:8; 33-34; 7:7-11)
5. The Heavenly Father corrects His Children. (Hebrews 12:4-11)

6. The Heavenly Father protects His Children. (Philippians 4:5-7; 1 Corinthians 10:12-13)
7. The Heavenly Father constantly shows His Love. (1 John 3:1; Romans 8:38-39)
8. Being in God's Family makes one an Heir of God. (Romans 8:17; Galatians 3:29; 1 Peter 1:3-5)

IV. WHAT BEING A CHILD OF GOD DEMANDS

1. The Child of God must separate him/herself from the world. (2 Corinthians 6:17-18; 7:1; 1 John 1:15-16)
2. The Child of God must be obedient. (1 John 3:10; 1 Peter 1:14; Ephesians 5:6; Romans 8:12-17)
- The Child of God must not walk after the flesh. (1 John 1:6-7)
3. The Child of God must wear the Family name. (Acts 4:11-12; 11:26; 1 Peter 4:15-16; Colossians 3:17)
4. The Child of God must love his/her brothers and sisters in the Lord.
(1 John 4:7; 20-21; 3:13-19)

CONCLUSION:

1. If God has a family and a household, how does one become a member?
- Only one way and that is God's way and that is by believing in His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.
2. There are countless blessings to those who are of God's Household.
3. There is a way of life that God's Children must live that is contrary to the normal way of the world.
4. Once a child of God, one is permanently a child of God. (1 Peter 1:3-5)
5. Are YOU a member of God's Family and Household?