

## ADOPTED CHILDREN OF GOD

**INTRODUCTION:** Now that we are no longer under the tutorship of the law, we have become sons and heirs simply by placing our faith in Christ. This means we are no longer in bondage, but now adopted as sons and daughters. An intimate relationship with God has been established and it likened to that of a little child and their daddy.

*Galatians 3:26-4:7*

### **I. OUR NEW STATUS: CHILDREN AND HEIRS** vv. 26-29

A. The means of our sonship is through personal faith. v. 26

1. Before, we were simply under the guardianship of the law.

*Revelation 1:5*

2. Now we are brought into a relationship with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ.

3. The Greek word for “*faith*” is “*pistis*” which means “*a firm persuasion*” . *Acts 4:19-20*

B. The manifestation of our sonship is through our spiritual union with Christ. v.27

1. When it is talking about baptism, it is not talking about a literal water baptism. *Galatians 2:20*

2. The picture painted here is that of putting on new clothes.  
*Colossians 3:9-10, v.27 NLT*

3. Now, we have this new identity in Christ. *Colossians 2:6 AMP*

C. The magnitude of sonship is seen through universal heirship.  
vv.28-29

1. Our ethnicity, social status, or gender no longer matter.
2. We are all one in Christ.
3. If you belong to Christ, then you are now an heir according to the promise.

## II. REDEMPTION FROM BONDAGE vv. 1-5

A. The underage heir is used as an illustration. vv.1-2

1. A child, even though one day he will become like his father, is still subject to rules and regulations of the house.
2. This coming of age was determined by a time appointed by the father.
3. “Master of all” speaks of his predetermined destiny to one day have authority over the estate of the father. *Romans 8:29-30*

B. We were once enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. v.3

1. We are created in the image of God and are intended to be delivered from the darkness of this world. *Colossians 1:13*,  
*2 Peter 3:9*
2. Until we came to Jesus, we lived according to worldly principles.
3. Worldly living brings about worldly outcomes and subjects us to the wicked one. *1 John 5:18-19*

C. Jesus came as the right time. vv.4-5

1. Everything came together according to God's plan and the time was right for Jesus to be born.
2. Jesus was born under the law to redeem us from the law.
3. This act removed the law as being the gateway to a relationship with God and placed it into the realm of simply having faith in Jesus.

**III. THE SPIRIT OF SONSHIP** vv. 6-7

A. The indwelling Spirit is proof of our adoption.

1. Now we are sons and God has placed His Spirit in our hearts.  
*Ephesians 1:13-14*
2. We've been endued with power from on high. *Luke 24:49*
3. The Holy Spirit dwelling within us longs to continually and intimately connect us with God. *1 Corinthians 2:10-12*

B. We now experience an intimate relationship with God.

1. The term Abba is a Hebrew word which means father and could never be used by a slave.
2. In the New Testament, Abba is only found 3 times and, in each instance, it is accompanied by Father, which speaks of an intimate relationship coupled with honor and respect.
3. You are no longer a slave, but now a son and an heir of God.  
*Romans 8:16-17*

C. This adoption is a permanent status. v.5

1. Under Roman law, a child that was adopted received equal and sometimes greater status as an heir.
2. An adopted child is a chosen child. *Ephesians 1:4-6*
3. When He chose you and adopted you, it brought Him pleasure.

**CONCLUSION:** Believers are no longer slaves to the law but are adopted children and legal heirs of God through faith in Christ Jesus. By putting on Christ, all believers—regardless of background—are one in Him, possess the Spirit, and can intimately call God "Abba, Father," ensuring their status as free heirs.