

# ADOPTION

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## INTRODUCTION

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### A. BY DEFINITION:

1. It indicated generally the legal process by which a man might bring into his family, and endow with the status and privileges of a son, one who was not by nature his son or his kindred.”
2. A process somewhat familiar to all of us. It is also used spiritually.

### B. IT IS A NEW TESTAMENT TEACHING:

1. Not much said in Old Testament.
  2. But in the New, many references made to our being adopted into the family of God.
  3. Text: It is the process that was foreordained. Not selected individuals.
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## In The New Testament

1. Follows the Jewish custom, which conferred the benefits of the family on the adoptee.
  2. Occurs only in Paul, and is a relationship conferred by God’s act of grace.
  3. Its intention and result is a change of status, planned from eternity and mediated by Jesus Christ (Eph. 1:5).
  4. The adopted son of God possess all family rights, including access to the Father (Rom. 8:15).
  5. Shares with Christ in the divine inheritance (Rom. 8:17).
  6. *“And because ye are sons, God sent forth the Spirit of his son into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father. So that thou art no longer a bond-servant, but a son; and if a son then an heir through God.”* (Gal. 4:6,7).
  7. The slave who becomes an adopted son.
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## RESPONSIBILITY OF

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### A. WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ONE ADOPTING?

1. Love. Must be the motive for adoption.
2. Must be able to care for and supply the needs of the one adopted.
3. Be able to give Security.
4. Provide an inheritance.
5. Give Name.

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## B. HOW DOES GOD MEET THESE RESPONSIBILITIES?

1. Love:
    - a. John 3:16.
    - b. Because God is Love. I John 4:8.
  2. Care For:
    - a. Matt. 6. Physical.
    - b. John 14:1ff the spiritual and eternal needs.
  3. Security:
    - a. No one can pluck one out of His hand.
    - b. II Tim. 1. He is able to guard that which I have committed....
    - c. The whole of the Book of Revelation.
  4. Inheritance:
    - a. *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy begat us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, unto an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you," (I Pet. 1:4).*
    - b. Heb. 9:15 Eternal inheritance.
  5. Name:
    - a. Isa. 62:2. *"thou shalt be called by a new name which the mouth of Jehovah shall name.*
    - b. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.
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## **RESPONSIBILITY OF**

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## WHAT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ONE ADOPTED?

1. Love.
    - a. The one who takes us in.
    - b. The one who gave us so much.
  2. Appreciation.
    - a. As one learns what has been done for them.
    - b. Show that appreciation in the life they live.
    - c. Honor....The name by which you are called.
  3. Follow - Obey.
    - a. Respect.
    - b. What about the disobedient?
  4. Wear the Name of the one who Adopts.
- B. HOW DO WE AS CHRISTIANS MEET THIS RESPONSIBILITY?
1. Love. What is the Great Commandment.
    - a. Love God with your all.
    - b. As an adopted child of God we must love Him.

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2. Appreciation.
  - a. Must appreciate what God has done for us.
  - b. How do we show that appreciation?
  - c. In and with our life.
3. Obeys.
  - a. We have His Word.
  - b. Must obey from the heart.
  - c. If we do not obey we do not love.
4. Name!
  - a. If adopted we wear the name of one who adopts us.
  - b. What if we wanted to wear someone else name?
  - c. *"And whatsoever ye do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."* (Col. 3;17)

## How are We Adopted?

### A. BY HIS WORD.

1. *"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God."* Rom. 8:14.
2. *"And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified with him."* Rom. 8:17.

### B. BY HIS SON. *"And because ye are sons, God sent forth the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father So that thou art no longer a bond-servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God."* (Gal. 4:6,7)

### C. HOW DO WE ENTER INTO GOD'S FAMILY?

1. *"For ye are all sons of God, through faith, in Christ Jesus, For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ."* (Gal. 3:26,27).
2. Which brings us back to Ephesians 1. That tells us (v. 3) that every spiritual blessing is in Christ.

### D. FOREORDAINED:

1. God foreordained the means and way by which man would/could be adopted.
2. It is "through Jesus Christ" (1;5).
3. **Only those who are in Christ are adopted by God and share in His Inheritance!.**

G.r.