

Divine Adoption



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SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of October 28, 2018

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This weekend we were reminded that divine adoption was God's idea before time and is primarily for His glory. How should believers live, in light of this understanding?
- 2 Why is Christ's redemptive work essential for adoption by God?
- 3 What specific changes have happened in your life since being redeemed by Christ? How have you shared your experience with your neighbors? If you have not, how will you?

DIGGING DEEPER

- 1 Looking at the passage below and the sermon passages, why does Paul refer to believers as "debtors"?

Would you describe the way you live your life as a debtor to the Holy Spirit? Explain.

If you are not living this way, what needs to change in your life for this to happen?

Rom 8:12-17, ESV – ¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ 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!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ 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.

2 Based on the passages below, as sons and daughters of God, what is the inheritance that awaits believers?

What is the significance in calling God “Abba”? Are you comfortable calling Him “Abba”? Explain.

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

1 John 3:2, ESV – ² Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

Titus 3:4-7, ESV – ⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

3 Based on the passages below, describe how God would have us engage those in our sphere of influence?

This Weekend, we learned that divine adoption is based on God’s work and not ours. At the same time, we are to devote ourselves to good works. What is your next step in taking on this responsibility?

Gal 3:23-29, ESV – ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.

Titus 3:8, ESV – ⁸The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.

TAKING IT HOME

A right understanding of our adoption by God, through Christ, compels us to do good works. As you think through the sermon and this week's study, who, in your sphere of influence, is God laying on your heart that needs to see God's love in action?

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

John 1:12
John 17:22-24
Rom 8:9-11
1 Cor 2:12
Gal 5:16-18
1 Tim 2:3-6
2 Tim 1:7-9