

ADOPTION AS SONS

Communion Meditation

Overview:

- *Huiothesia (Gr.)* – “to place as a son”
- *Adoption is an act of God’s grace by which He makes us members of His family with all the privileges of His children*

In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

(Ephesians 1:5-6)

⁴ But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, ⁵ so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷ Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

(Galatians 4:4-7)

¹⁵ For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him* so that we may also be glorified with *Him*.

(Romans 8:15-17)

²² For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. ²³ And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

(Romans 8:22-23)

Why Adoption?

1. Adoption implies that we are not God's children by nature but by grace
 - we are by nature estranged from God as enemies under His wrath
 - being made a child of God is entirely by God's grace through redemption in Christ

Why Adoption?

2. Adoption communicates the highest blessing of our salvation – children of God!
 - we are not only accepted and forgiven by God but loved as His children
 - we relate to and experience God as Father ("Abba")

Why Adoption?

3. Adoption points to the reality and certainty of our inheritance with Christ
 - we will share in the glory of Christ, our elder brother, in our eternal home
 - our adoption is not fully realized until we arrive home

Why Adoption?