

Children of God

Father's Day

Sunday, June 16 2019

Introduction

- On this Father's day - I want to reflect on the promise, privilege and power of being God's child
- Start with the text from the promise of the day
- Will also be looking at some verses from Romans 8
- **Note:** Part of the series on the Spirit!
- We will celebrate God's provision in communion

Becoming God's child

- Let's look again at the promise **John 1:11-13** (ESV) (11) *He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. (12) But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, (13) who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*

He came to His own

- God created mankind for relationship
- Gave them free will / wandered away
- God made a covenant with Abraham - sealed by circumcision - promised him children - at the age of 75
- At the age of 100, God kept that promise
- Abrahams descendants were God's chosen people - Israel
- They were God's children
- **Note:** See God's seeking - *he came* God has been seeking us since the garden! Man's religion is his attempt to reach God - *to be right with God*. God sought relationship with man!

They didn't receive him

- Jesus came - God's Messiah
- He preached salvation
- They rejected God's salvation - because they were bound up in their law

But to all...

- Their reject meant salvation became available to all - ie. The Gentiles
- Anyone who desires to have God as their father can come and call
- See [John 6:37](#) (ESV) (37) *All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.*
- He gives these the right to become his children

Born ... of God

- Not through some act of our will (trying hard enough), not thru some generational thing (of blood)
 - Supernatural birth
 - Jesus tells Nicodemus in John 3 - we must be born again
 - We receive His Gospel - He gives us the right to be born again, and through His Spirit we become His children
- Through Christ he can be our father
- Our text
- See the Lord's prayer

Living as God's child

- Let's look briefly at what it means to be God's Child
- Consider [Rom 8:14-16](#) (ESV) (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,*
- We'll look at the surrounding text as well

The Spirit of Sonship

- Not a slave to the law, which only leads to fear
- Spirit of sonship
- We've been adopted into his family - chosen!
- See *The Spirit bears witness*
- Proof of our sonship

Abba Father

- *Abba* Father - Daddy
- We have been born again
- Our sins paid for
- Chosen to be sons
- We are assured of His choice - because of the Spirit

- We are assured of His motive - and we call Abba
- **Note:** See how Jesus taught us to pray *Abba* - our father!

Led by the Spirit

- His Spirit in us leads us - we are *led by the Spirit*
- No condemnation (see [Rom 8:1-4](#) (ESV) (1) *There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (2) For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. (3) For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, (4) in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*)
- The Law condemns - the Spirit empowers
- We put to death the flesh [Rom 8:13](#) (ESV) (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.*
- The broken nature I received from Adam - my *earthly father* I put to death through the Spirit of my Heavenly Father!
- We follow the Spirit's leading and walk as sons
When we are led by the Spirit
Romans 8:14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.
- **Note:** Another sermon on this!

The future for God's child

The hope of resurrection

- [Rom 8:11](#) (ESV) (11) *If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.*
- We've been born again
- We receive His Spirit as Sons
- That Spirit is the power for resurrection and eternal life!

A future inheritance

- See the promise [Rom 8:17](#) (ESV) (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.*
- We will share in Christ's reward
- Right now we wait for that day (as does all creation)

- See **Rom 8:18-25** (ESV) (18) *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.* (19) *For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.* (20) *For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope* (21) *that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.* (22) *For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.* (23) *And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.* (24) *For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?* (25) *But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.*
 - Suffering now - putting to death the flesh
 - Because of the future promise
 - Creation too - because sin has broken this natural world
 - We groan - who have tasted thru the Spirit
 - In this hope we are saved - that we are adopted as sons. **Note:** This is a future thing
 - We wait with patience

Closing

- Are you a child of God?

Communion

1 Cor 11:23-26 (ESV) (23) *For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread,* (24) *and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."* (25) *In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."* (26) *For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*