

You Are Sons And
Daughters Of God

Gal 4:4-7

For God, the ultimate goal of Christmas is
for us to become his sons and daughters

Divine Adoption Plan

His Son redeems us

The Spirit of his Son seals the sonship

(1) Redeemed by the Son

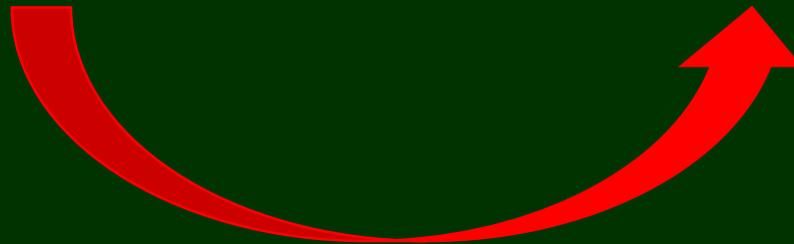
Gal 4:4-5

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

Gal 4:4-5

But when the set time had fully come,
God sent

- his Son born of a woman
- born under the law
- that we might receive adoption to sonship
- to redeem those under the law



God's goal

- God sent his Son, one born of a woman, one under the law, **in order** to redeem those under the law, **in order** that we might receive the adoption to sonship.

God's goal

- God sent his Son, one born of a woman, one under the law, **in order to (*hina*)** redeem those under the law, **in order that (*hina*)** we might receive the adoption to sonship.

- Redeem = to buy sth back to secure its liberation
- NLT version: God sent his Son to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law

The Wonderful Exchange:

The Son of God became a son of man so
that we children of humanity might
become children of God

“You thirsted for love that is free and not for the servile raptures of a slave before a power that has left him permanently terrified.”

Fyodor Dostoevsky, *The Grand Inquisitor*, *The Brothers Karamazov*

- Have you trusted God for his saving grace?
- If you claim to have relied on God's grace, do you, when you think of how God sees you, instinctively think of what you have done for God or what God has done for you?

A Trinitarian Effort!

- Father : Sends his Son + Spirit (vv4, 6)
- Son : Redeems us (vv4-5)
- Spirit : Witnesses to us (v6)

(2) Gifted with Spirit of the Son

Gal 4:6-7

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

What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us (1 Cor 2:12)

And hope does not put us to shame,
because God's love has been poured out
into our hearts through the Holy Spirit
who has been given to us (Rom 5:5)

“Does God listen with a parent’s anxious anticipation for our first, babbling attempts to say “Abba”? Over time, a newborn child will learn to recognise and respond to a parent’s voice...This awakening to the voice of the Spirit takes time. God’s love overflows but we must learn to navigate its waters...”

James W Mctyre

Do you ever care to have a relationship with God, to know him as a father or are you satisfied with having a nominal status of a son or daughter?

Our Inheritance

Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance (Ps 16:5-6)

All those that are justified, God vouchsafes, in and for His only Son Jesus Christ, to make partakers of the grace of adoption: by which they are taken into the number, and enjoy the liberties and privileges of the children of God; have His name put upon them, receive the Spirit of adoption; have access to the throne of grace with boldness; are enabled to cry, Abba, Father; are pitied, protected, provided for, and chastened by Him as by a Father; yet never cast off, but sealed to the day of redemption, and inherit the promises, as heirs of everlasting salvation.

The Westminster Confession of Faith on Adoption

Implications

- In the face of life's disappointments, fears and failures, the availability of God's grace and the hope that God would secure our future is a certainty, not just a possibility.
- Our motivation to live godly lives as God's children is not out of a fear of punishment, but a grateful heart that seeks to please the Father.

Implications

- Our true and ultimate satisfaction is in God. All other things or relationships in life should be directed and governed by our satisfaction in God.
- Members of God's family can seek unity and break down divisive walls.