

Adoption 2  
Romans 8:12-17  
Sovereign Savior Church

We have examined this doctrine and seen the beauty of being brought into the family of God. Adoption – The glorious act whereby God declares us His sons and daughters with all the rights and privileges of an heir- God’s obligation to us and our obligation to him are tied to this great doctrine  
He is our Father and He cares for us  
We are his children and we should act like it! We wear his name. We belong to him.  
I had a healthy fear of marring my family name  
How much more should we the family of Christ?  
Oh how the name has been shamed!

Today we look a little more technically before moving on in our confession

I want to begin by talking about adoption in the order of salvation- the Ordo Salutis  
For most of church history men have thought about our relationship with God in terms of an order  
I mentioned to you that it is a good thing to do so- healthy, challenging  
What came first?  
It will stretch you  
It will strengthen you  
It will solidify the graciousness of God in your soul

The basic order of salvation in the Bible is spelled out for us in the passage known as the golden chain of redemption or the golden chain of 5 unbreakable links

Romans 8:29-30

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

1. Foreknew
2. Predestined
3. Called
4. Justified
5. Glorified

Now as one journeys through the Scripture he notice that there are other aspects of this order  
For example: regeneration, conversion, adoption. Perseverance

So we must decide where those fit in.

So the church through the ages has battled with this and have placed these occurrences in the order they belong:

Classic reformed theology

1. Election (foreknowledge/ predestination)
2. Calling
3. Regeneration (born again)

4. Conversion (Faith and repentance)
5. Justification
6. Adoption
7. Sanctification
8. Perseverance
9. Glorification

None of this matters to a lost sinner- right?

But now as a child of God called to study the scriptures to show myself an approved workman that does not need to be ashamed- I discover these glorious truths about my salvation and about my God!

Before I was formed in my mother's womb- God knew me- God chose me!!!

He ordained that Christ would die for me

He brought me as any loving Father would do to the place I would be protected and cared for and established- he brought me to Jesus by calling me! He sent a preacher with the Gospel- sent Godly parents a heritage- took me to church

Not only did he bring me to Jesus and call me but regenerated me to hear the call

And then converted me and gave me faith and repentance and through that faith and repentance justified me

After justifying me he has officially and legally (fulfillment of the law in Christ) and lovingly adopted me into his family- I belong and can't un-belong

And by this spirit I am enabled to live according to God's will for my life

And because of this I will persevere (remember our passage for study? The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.)

And then one day be glorified – death will come as passage to glory

Now compare this to the Arminian ordo- salutis

1. Calling
2. Prevenient grace
3. Faith
4. Repentance
5. Regeneration
6. Justification
7. Perseverance
8. Glorification

Compare to the Catholic ordo-salutis

1. Actual grace
2. Faith
3. Contrition (attitude of remorse for sins committed)
4. Regeneration/ baptism (change produced at baptism where all previous sins are removed)
5. Penance (The process of regaining grace lost via sinning so that salvation is maintained)
6. Glorification

We need to recognize the difference and know the difference

You see when people castigate because of our Calvinism and reformed theology they neither realize what they are fighting against nor what they are fighting for.