

Romans 8:14 -17
The Spirit of Adoption

From fearful foundlings...

I. Adopted as Sons

- A. The Spirit of Adoption
- B. The Only Begotten Son
- C. The Father in Heaven

II. Assured as Children

- A. The Spirit's Witness
- B. The Son's Love
- C. Abba's Heart

III. Living in His Family

- A. Joy
- B. Privilege
- C. Duty
- D. Discipline
- E. Suffering
- F. Confidence
- G. Glory

... to heirs of Heaven.

Children, Listen ...

1. Who is God's only "begotten" Son?
2. How do we become children of God?
3. Who alone can call God "Father?"
4. Will life in this world always be easy for children of God?
5. Can children of God trust their Father in heaven no matter what happens?

What Kind of Love!?

It is hard to imagine anything more comforting for the Christian than knowing we are children of the living God. This is not only an extraordinary truth; it is a deeply assuring reality. Who can fathom such love? See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God 1 John 3:1. Along with the "legal" inclusion into God's family through adoption come the immense comfort and all the privileges God's grace affords. In Christ we can be confident that our heavenly Fathers love for us is perfect, and will be shown to us in the way he provides for us, protects us, directs the providences in our lives and even how disciplines us. We might not always understand His ways, and the road we travel may be painful indeed at times, but He cares for us intimately every step along the way. Every true child of God can affirm this truth with Paul: For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39. May we rest ourselves in His care and trust Him the way he tells us to, and may we experience the warmth of his love for us deep in our souls through the confident assurance of a true and living faith.