

The Doctrine of Adoption

Three greatest needs

New legal status	Justification
New family	Adoption
New life	Sanctification

Eph. 1:3-6; Gal. 4:4-6; Rom. 8:14-17

I. The Meaning of Adoption

J.I. Packer makes this intriguing statement: “Our understanding of Christianity cannot be better than our grasp of adoption.”

..

- A. Adoption is an act of God’s free grace, whereby, for the sake of Christ, He formally translates the regenerate from the family of Satan into His own, and legally confirms them in all the rights, immunities and privileges of His children.” Girardeau
- B. The Background to the Word

II. Three aspects of adoption

- A. It is a **redemptive** term
- B. It is a **legal** term
- C. It is a **relational** term: Father and son/daughter.

III. The Privileges of Adoption

- A. Present inheritance - God Himself (Psa. 73:24-25)
- B. Future inheritance - glorification and glory

Conclusion

“Adoption is the apex of redemptive grace and privilege.” John Murray

“To be right with God the Judge is a great thing, but to be loved and cared for by God the Father is greater.” J.I. Packer