

"Heirs of God"

Because We are Sons Galatians 4:1-7

Sons enjoy:

I. Access – "until the time appointed by the father" (vs. 1-3)

Leaving behind:

- A. Immaturity "as long as he is a child"
- **B.** Incarceration "children were in bondage"
- C. Ignorance "under the elements of the world"

II. Adoption -"the adoption of sons" (vs. 4-5)

Leaving heaven with a:

- A. Plan "when the fulness of the time was come"
- **B.** Payment -"To redeem them that were under the law"
- C. Purpose -"that we might receive the adoption of sons"

III. Affection - "into your hearts, crying" (vs. 6-7)

Leaving us with a:

- A. Family "because ye are sons"
- **B. Father** "Abba. Father"
- C. Future "if a son, then an heir of God"

Sentence Sermon:

"We enter God's family by regeneration, but enjoy God's family by adoption."

Additional Verses

- > Romans 8:15, 17, 26
- Mark 14:36
- > I Peter 2:2-3
- > II Corinthians 12:14
- > Ephesians 1:5, 7; 2:7
- **→** *Galatians 3:23-25*
- > John 1:12-13; 16:28
- Isaiah 7:14
- ➤ *Matthew 1:18-25*
- > Luke 15:18-19
- Philippians 4:19
- > Colossians 1:19; 2:3

Questions to Ponder:

- 1. What are the key words or phrases in this passage?
- 2. Who is the central character of the passage?
- 3. Who is the child being described in verse 1?
- 4. Who are the tutors and governors of verse 2?
- 5. What does verse 2 tell us about the discretion of the father?
- 6. How would you explain what the bondage is in verse 3?
- 7. What are some of the facets of "the fulness of time?"
- 8. What is the importance of Jesus being "made of a woman?"
- 9. Why was it important for Jesus to be "made under the law?"
- 10. Why didn't God just redeem us and not adopt us?
- 11. How would you use this passage to explain the trinity?
- 12. When were the Galatians servants of God and not sons?
- 13. After studying this passage, what kind of relationship does God want to have with believers?