

"Our adoption shows us the greatness of God's love. The New Testament gives us two yardsticks for measuring God's love. The first is the cross; the second is the gift of sonship. When you realize that God has taken you and made you a son in his own house—you, a miraculously pardoned offender—then your sense of God's "love beyond degree" is more than words can express."

— J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

When God is your Father, your IDENTITY is wrapped up in Christ.

Galatians 3:26-27, 29

You know WHOSE you are.

When God is your Father, you are INDISTINGUISHABLE to Him in regard to externals such as race, class & sex.

Galatians 3:28

"God receives us as sons, and loves us with the same steadfast affection with which he eternally loves his beloved only-begotten Son. There are no distinctions of affection in the divine family. We are all loved just as fully as Jesus is loved. It is like a fairy story—the reigning monarch adopts waifs and strays to make princes of them. But, praise God, it is not a fairy story! It is a hard and solid fact, founded on the bedrock of free and sovereign grace. This, and nothing less than this, is what adoption means. No wonder John cries, 'Behold, what manner of love!'"

— J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

You don't need to COMPETE for God's favor.

When God is your Father, you are fully included into His family as a PRIVILEGED son.

— You are **not** included into God's family as a SUPERVISED child.

Galatians 3:24-25, Galatians 4:1-2

— You are **not** included into God's family as a SLAVE.



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Galatians 4:3

"Paul's assertion is that all humanity, both Jew and Gentile, were just like the heir: While a minor, they were enslaved to something basic and temporary, now left behind because the age of majority has come in Christ."

– Michael Burer, *Galatians*

– You **are** included into God's family FREED by Jesus and ADOPTED by the Father.

Galatians 4:4-5

You receive FREEDOM and a FAMILY!

When God is your Father, you are offered deep INTIMACY by His Spirit.

Galatians 4:6, Romans 8:15-16

You have NO DOUBT you are His.



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When God is your Father, your
INHERITANCE is secure.

Galatians 4:7

"The reason for adopting, in the first-century world, was specifically to have an heir to whom one could pass on one's goods. So, too, God's adoption of us makes us His heirs, and so guarantees to us, as our right (we might say), the inheritance that he has in store for us. Our Father's wealth is immeasurable, and we are to inherit the entire estate."

— J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

Philippians 2:22

You fulfill your PURPOSE serving your Father.

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