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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church
PT: Ron Adema
Series: Book of Galatians

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Date: 06/08/14
Galatians.4:4-7
File: D140608

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION

English definition of Adoption: "To take by choice into a relationship; to take voluntarily (a child of other parents) as one's own child."

Those Christians who have adopted have experienced a similar reality of family development as Joseph and Mary with baby Jesus.

(Matt.1:18) "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit." (Luke 1:31-35)

This brings us to our lesson text of Paul's explanation of **Spiritual Adoption**. We will examine our lesson text by the following five homiletical points.

(Gal.4:1-3)	Slave market of sin	(bondage) Because of Adam's Original Sin (1 Cor.15:22)
(Gal.4:4)	Son of God	(incarnation of God's Son)
(Gal.4:5)	Sons by adoption	(redeemed for adoption/ Plan of God)
(Gal.4:6)	Spirit of His Son	(special relationship/ Abba! Father!)
(Gal.4:7)	Spiritual heir	(no longer a slave, but a son and heir through God)

QUESTION: Why does every member of the human race need to be spiritually adopted?

This lesson will study <u>four aspects</u> of Spiritual Adoption and answer this question.

1. Every member of the human race needs Spiritual adoption because of Adam's Original Sin (AOS) (Gen.2:16-17).

Because of AOS, every member of the human race is born illegitimate in his spiritual relationship with God.

(Heb.12:8) "But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons."

(1 Cor.15:22) "For as **in Adam** all die, so also **in Christ** all will be made alive." (Rom.5:12-21)

(Gal.4:4) "But when the fullness of time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under of the Law."

Even Jews need salvation by the gospel of Christ just as their father Abraham did. (Gal.3:8, 16; John 3:16-18; Luke 16:24)

2. The theology of spiritual adoption is the legal placement of every Church Age Believer (CAB) into the family of God by changing his legal status from illegitimate to legitimate.

The Greek word for adoption (huiothesia) is a compound Greek word consisting of huios and titheimi.

Adoption is legally placing a child into the Royal family of God with full rights of inheritance that he would not have had naturally.

Under the New Covenant, every Church Age Believer (CAB) is adopted at the moment he believes that Jesus Christ died for his sins according to the Scriptures, was buried and raised from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures. (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).

(Gal.4:5) “So that **He might redeem** those who were under the Law, that **we might receive the adoption as sons.**” (Eph.1:5-7; Gal.3:26)

(Rom.8:17) “And if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.”

3. Spiritual adoption is one of eight works of the Holy Spirit accomplished in salvation (Gal.4:4-7; Rom.8:15-17).

Every CAB is spiritually adopted into the Royal family of God under the New Covenant (Gal.3:28; 1 Cor.12:13; Col.3:11).

Adoption

Indwelling (1 Cor.6:19-20)

Sanctification (2 thess.2:13-14)

Spiritual gift (1 Cor.12:11)

Baptism of Holy Spirit (Gal.3:27)

Regeneration (Titus 3:5-7)

Seals (Eph.1:13-14)

Spiritual life (Rom.8:9-11)

(Gal.4:6) “Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, ‘Abba! Father!’” [language of both baby, Abba and of an adult, Pater]

4. Spiritual adoption into the Royal family of God is sealed by the Indwelling Holy Spirit unto the day of redemption.

(Eph.1:5) “In Him, you also after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation – having also believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with the view to the redemption of God’s own possession, **to the praise of His glory.**”

(Rom.8:16-17) “The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also **be gloried with Him.**”

(Rom.8:23) “And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, **waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons**, the redemption of our body.”

ONCE ADOPTED, ALWAYS

A ROYAL SON AND HEIR OF THE FAMILY OF GOD