

Romans

(27) Our adoption, in Christ

The believer's responsibility and position...8:12-17

How does Paul now address his intended audience? vs.12 Comment?

He uses the term 'brothers'. This is a tender term he expands in vs.16, children of God.

And what is his point to those 'brothers' in Christ? vs.12

Therefore (vs.10-11) we are not obligated to live according to the flesh.

Who is it that is 'living according to the flesh'? vs.5-9

It is the person who is not saved, not 'in the Spirit'. Does not have the Spirit.

And what is his point about the unsaved? vs.6, 13a Rev.20:14

If they remain unsaved they will remain dead, and ultimately die the second death.

And the real point, for the believer, is what? vs.13b

If, by the Spirit, we're (progressively) putting to death the sinful deeds of the body, we live

What is the new position for believers that explains this victory over sin? vs.14

Those who are being led by the Spirit of God are sons (children, vs.17) of God!

What is clearly different about the Holy Spirit's indwelling vs. sin's indwelling? vs.15a

The Holy Spirit does not cause us fear or slavery (against our will). Spirit of sonship...

If not fear / slavery, then what? vs.15b

We have received the Spirit of sonship, of being adopted into God's very family!

And just how intimate is that Father-child relationship? vs.15c IICor.6:17-18

By the indwelling Spirit we address Him as Abba, Father, daddy...

And by adopting us through Christ, what ultimately happens? Eph.1:5-6

It brings praise of the glory of His grace! It's all of Him and His grace to us.

What is one of the strongest evidences to the believer of 'for sure' salvation? vs.16

The indwelling Holy Spirit testifies with our spirit (inner man) that we are God's children.

And if children (of God), then what? vs.17

Then heirs of God! and co-heir with Christ! What an inheritance is ours.

What's the other testimony that we belong to Him? vs.17b

We share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory!

Some thoughts on our adoption

What is one of the effects *right now* when believers *know* of our adoption? IJn.3:2-3

Having this hope (not knowing exactly what it will be like) causes purity in the life.

How is adoption fundamentally different from forgiveness of sins?

We could be forgiven and just be innocent, like Adam. Perfection is infinitely greater!