

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S MINISTRY

Rom. 8:14-17

Pt. 8

1. Like the doctrines of the Righteousness of God in justification and sanctification by grace through faith without works and Agape Love, the doctrine of Adoption is a hard doctrine.
 - a. It goes against all natural, human, worldly wisdom.
 - b. It goes against the teachings of historic Christianity.

2. But God's Word isn't supposed to coddle us to sleep and comfort us in our errors. God's Word is supposed to wake us up, give us a smack across the face, a good shaking, a kick in the seat of the pants. (1 Cor. 3:1-2)

3. The Father didn't bring us into His family as little children so that He could send us off to the nursery with our nurses and tutors who would control our environment, manipulate all our circumstances, keep us protected from anything negative, a place where all our owies can be promptly kissed and made to go away. (Rom. 8:14-15)

4. Satan and historic Christianity want to keep believers in the nursery, and they have been largely successful in doing so.

5. The Father brought us into His family as adult children, adult sons and daughters, so that He could send us off to carry out His business in this sin-cursed world, under adverse conditions.

6. The Father wants His adult children to set up distributorships of His Grace and peace, franchises that follow His business plan of Agape Love, satellites of His Light and Life.

7. The Christian life is not us leading the Spirit into our business.

8. The Christian life is the Spirit leading us into the Father's business.
 - a. The Spirit of Adoption, God's children through Christ are placed into His family as adult sons and daughters.
 - b. They are brought into the Father's business—His business plan, His purposes, His riches, etc.

9. Adoption is about belonging to something centered on God the Father (Eph. 1:1-6; 15-17; Rom. 8:15)

10. Every blessing originates from Him and the initiative is just the good pleasure of His will, which He came up with in eternity past before anything had been created.
11. He chose the Body of Christ and its members to carry out His plan for today in the Dispensation of Grace and predetermined that they would receive the adoption of adult sons and daughters because He wanted them to participate in His business (Eph. 1:1-6).
12. The chosen Nation of Israel also has an adoption, which she forsook at Sinai by rejecting God's grace and going under the Mosaic Law System.
 - Under the Law God had to place them as children in their minority under nurses, tutors and governors. (Gal. 4:1-2; Rom. 9:2)

- 13 This is why Sonship Adoption is all of Grace.
 - a. This is why it has to be by Agape Love—everyone not considering their own things but the things of others.
 - b. Not keeping our things for ourselves, like a toddler, but sharing our things with others like adults.

14. Our flesh played no role in this so we are not indebted to it but to the Spirit who leads us into our sonship position in the Father's household. (Rom. 8:12)

15. Adoption is for a purpose: It is not only from something (our previous family in Adam) but is to something (God's family) so that we can accomplish God's Purpose: The Re-establishing of His Glory in the Heavens. Eph. 2:6-7; 3:10