

“Spirit of Adoption”

Intro Verses

Luke 12:48 “Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, **they will demand the most.**”

Matthew 25:40 “The King will reply, “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the **least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.**” NIV

Isaiah 1:17 “ Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.”

Nature of the Father, Nature in Us

James 1:27 “Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after **orphans** and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.” NIV

Psalms 68:5-6a “A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. **6 God sets the lonely in families.**” NIV

Deuteronomy 10:18 “He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, **giving him food and clothing.**”

1 Corinthians 4:15 “For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, **yet you do not have many fathers**; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.” NKJV

We Have All Been Adopted into God’s Family

Romans 8:15-17 “15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the **Spirit of adoption as sons**, by whom we cry, “**Abba! Father!**” 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that **we are children of God**, 17 and if children, then heirs—**heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ**, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.”

Romans 9:4; 7-8 “4 They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. 7 and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” 8 This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring.”

Ephesians 1:4-5 “4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will.”

“Do Not Grow Weary in Doing Good”

Galatians 6:8-10 “8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”

1 Peter 4:10-11 “10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: 11 whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

Acts 20:35 “35 In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

Matthew 20:28 “even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Key Point: Keep your hands to the plow and do not look back while you are serving for the kingdom

(All verses are ESV unless otherwise noted)