

The Promise Of The Fatherhood Of God

Outline By: Mark Knowles 4/7/19

And He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved to the point of death; remain here and keep watch." And He went a little beyond them, and fell to the ground and began to pray that if it were possible, the hour might pass Him by. And He was saying, "Abba! Father! All things are possible for You; remove this cup from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will." (Mark 13:34-36)

For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" 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 so that we may also be glorified with Him. (Roman 8:14-17)

Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God. (Galatians 4:6-7)

1. We Are _____ To Him

"and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.'" (Acts 17:26-28)

Because of His love for us, God said to Christ, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness" (Genesis 1:26a). By _____ we are all made in God's image and therefore are by birth the children of God.

However, a person must become a child of God in two senses: _____ and a _____ birth (John 3:5-6; 2 Corinthians 5:17).

2. We Are _____ To Him

Good earthly fathers love their children and family and sacrifice and work hard to provide for them, to express love in giving them attention, teaching them right and wrong. This is what our Father from heaven does for us!

"Or what man is there among you who, when his son asks for a loaf, will give him a stone? "Or if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he? "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him! (Matthew 7:9-11)

3. We Have An _____ With Him

We are privileged to talk directly with our God. We can talk to God as we would with a friend and that standing by are the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:26-27 to help us when words are not enough) and Jesus (1 John 2:1) who is always interceding for us.

4. We Have His _____ And _____

Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. (1 Peter 5:7)

For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, How blessed is the man who trusts in You! (Psalm 84:11-12)

5. We Have His _____

We have an all-powerful Father who is able to keep that which you have entrusted to Him until that day (2 Timothy 1:12). In order to assure such an eternal life He causes all things to work together for good so long as you love Him (Romans 8:28).

6. We Have His _____

Our Father wills that all men should be saved (1 Timothy 2:4). He is not willing that any should perish (2 Peter 3:9). Just as a father on earth has compassion on his children, so that heavenly parent has compassion on them who fear Him, for He knows our weaknesses, and He remembers that we are dust (Psalm 103:13). He is "full of compassion and is merciful" (James 5:11), "gracious, slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness" (Psalm 103:8).

What Now?

1. Can you truly say, "Abba! Father!" as a child of God? What is your relationship like with our Father? Read the story of the "Prodigal Son" in Luke 15:11-32. Which son best represents your relationship with our Father? How can you grow in your relationship with God our Father?
2. Share your story with one person this week.
3. Invite someone to sit down and just talk about their spiritual life with you.

"See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are" (1 John 3:1).