

Adoption is a *gracious* gift from God the Father which is *totally undeserving* on the believer's part. *God the Holy Spirit* performs the ceremony of adoption at the moment of salvation through regeneration (John 1:12), and the Baptism of the Spirit (Gal. 3:26-28). Adoption means that the Church Age believer is *spiritual aristocracy* now and is *intimately related* to all 3 Members of the Trinity. The adoption of the Church Age believer means: (1) Privileges as an adult son of God (2) Responsibility to grow to spiritual maturity. God the Father's *virtue-love* in eternity past *motivated* him to adopt the Church Age believer into the royal family of God. The incarnate Son of God's *redemptive* work on the cross *provided the opportunity* to become an adoptive son. Redemption means that the believer has been set free from the slave market of sin and has *spiritual freedom* (Gal. 5:1). The adoption of the believer means that he has obtained an eternal inheritance as a result of becoming an *heir* of God and *joint-heir* with Christ (Rom. 8:14-17; Eph. 1:13-14). The adoption of the believer *delivers* them from their personal sins and the old sin nature (Rom. 8:12-17). It *provides* them spiritual freedom and a fantastic future in a resurrection body in the eternal state.

The adoption of the believer results in 3 categories of *sanctification*: (1) *Positional*: The *status quo* of the Church Age believer as an adoptive son of God. (2) *Experiential*: The *experience* of the Church Age believer as an adoptive son of God. (3) *Ultimate*: The *destiny* of the Church Age believer as an adoptive son of God.

Adoption is related to *regeneration* (John 1:12). It is also related to the doctrine of justification where God the Father acknowledges His divine righteousness in the believer and declares the believer justified thus qualifying him to become an adoptive son with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities that a son has. It is also related to the 5 Great Imputations: (1) *Human life* at the moment of physical birth (2) *Adam's original sin* to the genetically formed sin nature (3) *Personal sins* to Christ on the cross (3) 2 Categories of *divine righteousness* at the moment of salvation (4) *Eternal life* to the human spirit given at the moment of regeneration.

## RECONCILED:

Reconciliation is God's peace treaty with the entire human race. It is the result of the finished work of Christ on the Cross. Reconciliation removes the Barrier which separates God from man (Eph. 2:14-16). The peace offering in the Old Testament depicts reconciliation (Lev. 3; 7:11-38; 8:15). The peace offering emphasizes the Person of Christ. The peace offering sets forth God as propitiated and the sinner reconciled. The Author of the Peace Treaty is God the Father (2 Cor. 5:18a; Eph. 1:3-7; 2:14-16). Man was the enemy of God (Rom. 5:6-10; Eph. 2:1-5). God the Father is the Initiator of the peace treaty with man. Man is totally helpless to make peace with God (Rom. 3:10, 23; 8:5-8; Eph. 2:1). The Lord Jesus Christ is the Mediator of the Peace Treaty (2 Cor. 5:18b;