

Romans 8:1-17

**Pray** that God would cause you to have faith in your *adoption* as His true daughter or son.

**Read** Romans 8:1-17

**Look Closer...** The beginning of this chapter echoes the glory of the beginning of chapter 5 (“Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand”), by saying that we now are under the *law of the Spirit of Life*. That is, our relationship with Jesus, the fact that He loves us and is saving us, is the primary fact and guiding rule of our lives.

Since this rule of Life that we live by is the most true thing about us, Paul concludes that we are certainly able to please God (vv. 9-11)! And this leads Paul to the most amazing truth of all, that our salvation in Jesus is really just about belonging to God. This is what we call *adoption*. God saved you, not because He felt like He had to, not because He needs you, but because He wants you!

**Think about it...** By the Spirit of God our spirits cry out to God and call Him “Abba, Father!” We were made brothers and sisters of Jesus, co-heirs of all that He will receive for being obedient to the Father’s will.

Your relationship to sin and death is beyond over. What has occurred in salvation is not something that was “declared” by a judge, but salvation is relational and changes everything. You are adopted, you belong to the Righteous Father of all the earth. You don’t belong to sin; death has no power over you; walk in freedom, for you stand in God’s grace!

**Pray about it...** God is calling all the world to come and belong to His family so that all might receive the glorious benefits of belonging to God’s family. Pray that you would faithfully reveal what it looks like and what it means to belong to that family. Pray that you would love people the way God has loved you; no longer judging, or acting selfishly, or whatever it is that causes us to be unkind. Pray that our family’s DNA would be the guiding rule over every step of our lives.