

# TRUTH & WONDERFUL CONSEQUENCES

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## Our Riches in Christ : Study in Ephesians, Part 8b

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Ephesians 2: 19

July 1, 2012

### Sermon Notes

- I. We are *family*. [Kids of the King]
  - A. Through Christ, we are members of the household of God. (2:19b)
  - B. “**Adoption**” is the metaphor Paul sometime uses to describe the legal process by which this occurs. (cf. Eph. 1:5; Gal. 4:6)
  - C. What are some of the aspects of “adoption” in Paul’s day?
    1. You were *chosen*, accepted, loved, extended great compassion and offered an intimate family relationship. (cf. Eph. 1:4; I Pet. 1:2)
    2. The adopted child in a Roman family would not only have equal status with all the natural born children...he might even have *more* privilege.
- D. In Paul’s day, what were some of the legal steps of adoption?
  1. The first step in this adoption procedure was for the son (daughter) to *sever* his legal and social relationships to his natural family. (cf. I Pet. 4:3)
  2. The second step to adopt a child was for him (her) to be placed *permanently* into his new home. (cf. John 6:37)
  3. The third step involved the eradication of all his *debts* in a complete and irrevocable manner....to the point that it was as if they had never existed. (cf. Is. 1:18; Ps. 103:12)
  4. Finally, for the transaction to become legally binding, it required the presence of seven reputable *witnesses* who could testify, if needed, to any challenge regarding his rights and privileges after his adopted father’s death. (cf. I Jn. 2:1)



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