



**GRACE GOSPEL MINISTRY**

Liberating / Grace

## ADOPTION

The Greek word *yee·oth·ehs·ee·ah* translated “adoption”, means to be placed in the position of a son. This is a legal term denoting the process by which one is endowed with the status and privileges associated with kinship. This depicts the believer's relationship to God. It was the choice of God in eternity based solely on the good pleasure of His will as to who would be made children of God (heirs) through Jesus Christ unto Himself (Ephesians 1:5). It is through the medium of the Spirit of that which bears witness or communicates to our spirits’ that we are children of God, thus allowing us to cry out “Abba, Father” (Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:5-7). The right to call God " Father" was reserved exclusively to Jesus Christ as the Son of God; it is our identification with Christ, as members of His body that gives us this privilege of heirship also (Romans 8:17).

In Galatians 4:5, the sonship position is not portrayed as something that is acquirable by the merit or workings of those who are its recipients. It is in fact granted to God’s elect, thus it is received from Him according to the good pleasure of His good will. Therefore believers are foreordained to positions of sons through Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:5), and this relationship to God is effectuated through the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:15). One of the many privileges that are concomitant with being sons of God is that of being heirs. In this light it is understood that God

is the one who took the initiative to bring sons to Himself, in that He knew those that were His as well as those who were not, according to the identity of their assigned designations (Romans 9:25). The transaction of adoption originated in His sovereign will before the creation of the world (Romans 8:29; 1Peter 1:20). See: “The Foreordination of the Eternal Workings of Salvation”.