

First Sunday after Christmas – 2025

Saturday, 12/27 at 4:00 | Sunday, 12/28 at 9:00

How Did God Adopt Us?

12/27 at
4:00
12/28 at
9:00

- God's Plan
- Our Need
- God's Promise
- Jesus' Birth
- Jesus' Life
- Jesus' Death
- Jesus' Resurrection

Text: Galatians 4:4-7 NAS 2020

By the Holy Spirit: Let's ♡understand and ♡apply the Bible in our lives!

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: Life in this fallen world can be difficult:

- Financial – high costs, low wages or unemployment.
- Physical – illness, disabilities, chronic conditions.
- Spiritual – sin, guilt, separation from God.

Nevertheless, *let us rejoice in what God has done to adopt us into His forever family!*

Today's sermon text is from **Galatians chapter 4**. Let's focus on **God's plan to adopt us!**

1. **Jesus Was Promised and Born:** ***4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,***

a. At the Appointed Time: **Try to imagine the steps involved in preparing a 10-story hotel for occupancy:**

- i. A location is chosen and purchased.
- ii. Plans are drawn up and approved.
- iii. A general contractor is hired and the construction is completed.



- iv. The final inspection is done and staff are hired.

All that, ***and so much more***, for **one hotel**. Now, *imagine the tremendous preparation that was done to prepare for **the Son of God to put on human flesh**.*

b. From Heaven to Earth: When everything was ready, *the Son of God put on flesh in the womb of Mary.*

c. Putting on Flesh: **Hebrews 2:14** “...since the children share in flesh and blood, [the Son of God] Himself likewise also partook of the same, [Why?] so that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil...”

d. Under the Law:

- i. Some people who are **wealthy and powerful** live as if they are **above** God’s Law – *as if God’s Law does not apply to them!*
- ii. But **Jesus** was born **under** the Law, *so it did apply to Him*. Why? Jesus said, **Matthew 5:17** “Do not

presume that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets [the OT Scriptures]; I did not come to abolish, **but to fulfill.**"

2. **Jesus Did Excruciating Work for Our Eternal Benefit:** ⁵ **so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons and daughters.**

a. Jesus Paid the Adoption Price:

- i. In the US: It can cost **50k** or more to adopt an infant. *That's expensive!*
- ii. What did it cost God to adopt us into His family?
It cost His Son †leaving heaven, †putting on flesh, †living in this fallen world, †receiving our sins, †receiving our eternal punishment, and †laying down His life! The **HIGH-COST** points to the **GREAT LOVE** God has for you and me!

b. It's Critical for Us to Receive:

- i. Imagine a **physical** orphan: Living in a miserable orphanage *but refusing to be adopted by a loving family* 😞.
- ii. Imagine a **spiritual** orphan: Separated from God and His love *but refusing to be adopted into God's family through Jesus* 😞.
- iii. Instead: *Let us gladly receive God's offer* 😊!

3. **Through Jesus God Is Our Forever Father:** ⁶ **Because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba! Father!"**

- a. The Father – Child Relationship: The Holy Spirit works through the Bible to help believers know who they are: **children of God** ([Rom. 8:16](#)). God is their dear father, and they are His dear children!
- b. More Blessings from the Holy Spirit: He also enables us to **understand**, **live**, and **share** the Bible.

4. **Through Jesus We Have an Eternal Inheritance:**

⁷Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

- a. Promoted from Slave to Son: In Bible times, it was the sons who inherited, *the daughters only inherited when there were no sons*. However, now – all who know Jesus as Savior and Lord, *are full-fledged children of God*.
- b. God Has Written Us Into His Will:
 - i. When a person dies and the assets are distributed, some non-family members may receive something, but the inheritance primarily goes to the children.
 - ii. Since we are God's children through Jesus, we already have the gift of eternal life and will one-day enjoy the FULLNESS of eternal life!

Let Us Pray: Dear Father in heaven, **You** loved us, so You paid the adoption price through Your Son. Then, by Your Spirit, **You** have brought us into Your family. Therefore, grant us eternal joy in our hearts and overflowing joy in our lives!