



Adopted

By Jeff Bedwell on October 14, 2022

TODAY'S READING: 1 John 3

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are" (1 John 3:1, ESV).

In his book, *Knowing God*, J. I. Packer writes: "If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child, and having God as his Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all."

Packer writes that if he were to focus the New Testament message in three words, he would choose: *adoption through propitiation*. We have the privilege of being adopted as a child of God, a part of God's forever family because of the life, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ! May we never get over this amazing grace. May the knowledge of this privilege permeate every aspect of our lives. (Note: the rest of this chapter is a call to live out our new life as a child of God—in purity, sinning less and less, loving one another).

Packer encourages us to focus on six key truths every day. He writes, "Say it over and over to yourself first thing in the morning, last thing at night, as you wait for the bus, any time your mind is free, and ask that you may be enabled to live as one who knows it is all utterly and completely true."

1. I am a child of God.
2. God is my Father.
3. Heaven is my home.
4. Every day is one day nearer.
5. My Savior is my brother.
6. Every Christian is my brother too.

Spend some time meditating on these truths. Praise God for the privilege of being adopted as a child of God. Let us reaffirm our desire as His children to imitate, please, and glorify our Father.

PRAYER: Father, thank You for Your love that has given me the undeserved privilege of being adopted as a child of God through Christ Jesus! May this new status and identity permeate every area of my life and relationships.

TOMORROW'S READING: Weekend is for catch-up and review.

MONDAY'S READING: 1 John 4

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