

CONFIRMATIONS - SONS, ADOPTION AND CHILDREN Roaming Through Romans

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."
Romans 8:15

THREE WORDS: SONS, ADOPTION AND CHILDREN

Sons of God:

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.
Romans 8:14

Adoption:

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."
Romans 8:15

Children of God:

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.
Romans 8:16

CONFIRMATION ONE: BEING LED BY THE SPIRIT

For (what) as many as are (what) led (or, to be taken hold of, to be led along, to carry, to guide, to lead like one leads an animal) by (who) the Spirit of God, these are (what) sons of God.
Romans 8:14

Question

How is someone "led" by the Spirit of God? Or, in what areas of life does the Spirit lead?

Jesus opened their understanding of the Scriptures:

Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He (what) opened their understanding, (why) that they might comprehend the Scriptures.
Luke 24:44-45

He does it in ways we cannot understand:

"The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."
John 3:8

He does it by the Holy Spirit:

"These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will (1) teach you all things, and (2) bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."
John 14:25-26

And this illumination is not for everybody:

But the (who) natural man (what) does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, (why) for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one.

Question: For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?"

Answer: But we have the mind of Christ. 1 Corinthians 2:14-16

One, the Illumination of the Word and Will of God:

My Responsibility:

- (1) Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and
- (2) lean not on your own understanding;
- (3) in all your ways acknowledge Him, and

His Responsibility:

He shall direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

Paul's prayer for the church at Ephesus:

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you (1) the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the (2) eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power

Ephesians 1:17-19

That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory,

- (1) to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that
- (2) Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
- (3) may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height--
- (4) to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge;
- (5) that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:16-19

Two, To Live a Life that is in the Image of Christ:

God saved us to be conformed to the image of Jesus:

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined (or, pre-ordained) to be (what) conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.
Romans 8:29-30

If you are saved by the Spirit, then live like the Spirit who saved you:

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Galatians 5:16-17, 25

God reveals His will to those who live like His Son:

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you (what) present your bodies a living sacrifice, (how) holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And (what) do not be conformed to this world, but be (what) transformed (how) by the renewing of your mind, (why) that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
Romans 12:1-2

CONFIRMATION TWO: ADOPTION BY "ABBA"

For you did not receive (what) the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received (what) the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."
Romans 8:14

We receive and received spiritual blessings:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has (what) blessed us with (what) every spiritual blessing (where) in the heavenly places (how) in Christ,

Blessing One: just as (what) He chose us in Him (when) before the foundation of the world, (for what purpose) that we should be holy and without blame before Him

Blessing Two: in love, having (what) predestined us to (what) adoption as sons (how) by Jesus Christ to Himself, (why) according to the good pleasure of His will, (for what purpose) to the praise of the glory of His grace,

Blessing Three: by which (who) He (what) made us accepted in the Beloved.
Ephesians 1:3-5

Bondage, adoption and "Abba":

Even so we, when we were children, were in (what) bondage under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of the time had come, God (what) sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to (what)

redeem those who were under the law, (why) that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

Galatians 4:3-6

Roman Adoptions:

**In Roman culture, the father's rule was absolute.
Father often looked for someone to adopt as a son.
Name, title and majority of estate fell to adopted son.**

Steps in Roman adoption:

- 1. Must sever all legal and social relationships with natural family.**
- 2. All debts and obligations are cancelled, as if they never existed.**
- 2. There must be 7 reputable witnesses to the adoption.**

CONFIRMATION THREE: WITNESS OF THE SPIRIT

The (who) Spirit Himself (what) bears witness with (who) our spirit that (what) we are children of God.
Romans 8:16

FOR TUESDAY NIGHT:

And if children, then heirs-- heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we (what) suffer with Him, (why) that we may also be glorified together.
Romans 8:17

Question

How does the Spirit bear witness with my spirit? What does that mean? And what does it mean that "if children, then heirs... and joint heirs with Christ"? Does that really mean what it says? And, if so, is the condition for all of this suffering? Ouch!