

**TITLE:** "Adoption"

**TEXT:** Ephesians 1:3-11 (ESV)

**Subject:** The Kingdom of God, Salvation, Trinitarianism

**Essence of the Text in a sentence (ETS):** God is to be blessed for creating a people for himself through atoning and redeeming life of Jesus Christ, his Son, making other sons and daughters.

**Essence of the Sermon in a sentence (ESS):** Hearers will understand their identity as being children of God through Jesus Christ.

**Objective of the sermon in a sentence (OSS):** Hearers will proclaim to those who aren't children of God through Jesus how to become so through the message of the gospel.

### **Introduction**

I want you all to imagine your most unfavorable relationship. Whether you're still in a relationship with that person who is so unfavorable or not, you resolve in your mind to see that relationship, both its continuation or its conclusion beforehand. Now, in our human framework, we either choose to continue or end a relationship based upon principles of personal satisfaction. We either in and out, based on whether or not this relationship is favorable. Let me ask you then, brothers and sisters, is that how God is? No!

God is awesome! What an amazing salvation we have through Jesus! No matter where we've been, what we've done, or who are, God is continually concerning himself with our lives! He doesn't get taken aback when you and I constantly rebel against him, he just keeps pursuing us, showing us why anything that would fight for our attention and affection is just not worth it compared to him.

### **Main Point 1: God's Salvation is Adoption Through His Son Jesus.**

**Application 1:** Repent from living life on your own terms, and start believing in Jesus, who lived perfectly on God's terms for you and me.

- a. Grace comes from God (1:2)
- b. God is to be blessed for blessing the church with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ (1:3)
- c. God predestined the church for adoption through Jesus Christ, lavished us with grace, made known the purpose of his will, and is uniting all in things in Christ (1:4-10)
- d. The church only has an inheritance in Christ, and the Holy Spirit sealed it.

### **Main Point 2: God's Salvation is a Permanent Inheritance.**

**Application 2:** Praise God for the fact that he won't turn his back on his kids.

- a. God's salvation requires us to be completely faithful to him.
- b. God made us to be unified in Christ.
- c. God desires the gospel to be proclaimed, and for people to have a promised inheritance through Jesus.

**Main Point 3: God's Way of Salvation Was Intentional.**

**Application 3:** Rely on God's power to save, not your power to do.

**Conclusion:** As a church, we are to view the world as a place that will be transformed through Christ Jesus. God is making people his children and giving them an eternal inheritance that is guaranteed, so that he would be praised for his grace towards us. The church is to be filled with those who are kids of grace through Jesus!