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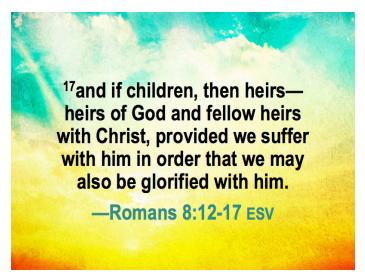
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debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

15For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,



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"Adopted defines how you came into the household, but it doesn't define you as some other sort of family member."

—Russell Moore

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Adoption Into a Roman Family:

- 1. The adopted person lost all rights to the old family relationship and gained legitimate legal status as a son.
- 2. He became the legal heir to the father's estate, even if other biological children followed.

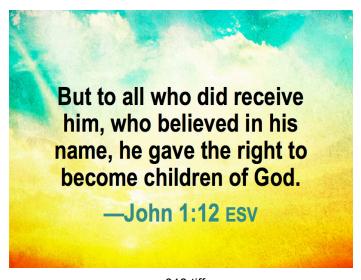
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Adoption Into a Roman Family:

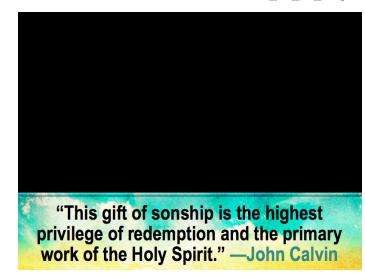
- 3. In law, the old life (debts, obligations) were wiped out and they were regarded as people with a new identity.
- 4. In law, the adopted son was absolutely and irrevocably the son of his new father.

"Spiritual adoption is the legal act of God that changes your status from 'outcast' to 'heir' as a part of His eternal family."

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... ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. —Ephesians 2:2-3 ESV

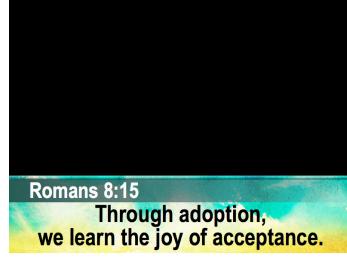
Romans 8:15
Through adoption,
we learn the way of love.

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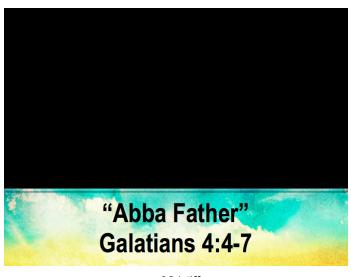
18There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.
For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

19We love because he first loved us. —1 John 4:18-19 ESV

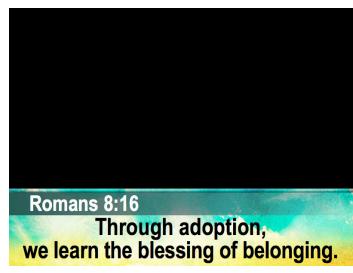
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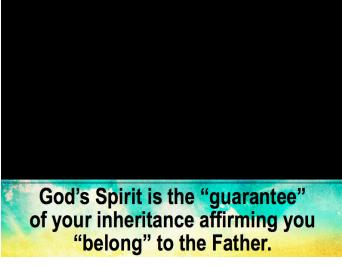
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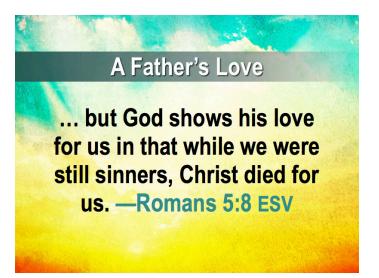
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Through adoption,

we learn the benefits of inheritance.



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A Promise

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

—John 1:12 ESV

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