

Women & More

Daughter of the King

October 17, 2013

J. I. Packer in his book, *Knowing God*, says of himself and believers, “I am a child of God. God is my Father, Jesus is my older brother, and heaven is my home!” But none of us began as members of the family of God, as sons and daughters of the King! We were, in fact, paupers, slaves to sin—under law—and estranged from the Father. Romans 3:10-12 *“As it is written: ‘There is **no one righteous not even one**; ¹¹there is **no one who understands, no one who seeks God**. ¹²All have turned away, they have **together become worthless**; there is **no one who does good, not even one**.”* And verse 23 *“...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God....”* Woe!

But the Father—the King—had a plan! Galatians 4:4-7 *“But when the time had fully come, **God sent his Son**, born of a woman, born under law, **sto redeem those under law**, that we might receive the full rights of sons (daughters). ⁶Because you are sons (daughters), God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out ‘Abba, Father.’ ⁷So **you are no longer a slave, but a son (daughter)** and since you are a son (daughter), God has **made you also an heir**.”* And John 1:12 *“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”*

From *woe* to WOW! Far in advance of our arrival—natural birth—God made plans to bring us into his royal family. God did not draw straws or roll dice, and he did not look down through time to see who would believe on him before he decided. His choosing (election) was totally apart from human will and purely based on his Sovereign will. Webster defines sovereign as 1) excellent, 2) supreme in power or authority, 3) highest 4) having independent authority—without any external control. 2 Thessalonians 2:13 *“But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because **from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the Truth**.”* The Trinity is all over this plan—Father, Spirit and Son!

We will see that his plan for us includes: 1) **election**—being **appointed and chosen** for his great salvation—and 2) **adoption**. Scripture passages describing God’s Sovereign will displayed in his choice do not exist to imply that sinners do not make decisions. Election does not exclude human responsibility or the necessity of each person to respond to the gospel in faith! John 6:37-40

*“All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And **this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me**, but raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.”*

We may not understand election, but it is fully reconciled in the mind of God, and he has given us his mind on it in his Word. We will need to accept by faith his sovereignty in choosing us, and our responsibility to confess and believe.

John 15:19c *"I have **chosen** you out of the world."* (key verse)

Romans 8:33 *"Who will bring any charge against **those whom God has chosen**? It is God who justifies."*

Ephesians 1:4-14 *"For **he chose us in him** (Jesus Christ) **before the creation of the world** to be holy and blameless in his sight.... In love **she predestined us to be adopted as his sons (daughters)** through Jesus Christ **in accordance with his pleasure and will**—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. **In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us** with all wisdom and understanding. **And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment.... In him we were also chosen,** having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, **in order that we who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance** until the **redemption of those who are God's possession**—to the praise of his glory."*

Colossians 3:12 *"Therefore, as **God's chosen** people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."*

Titus 1:1 *"Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of **God's elect** and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness—**a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time....**"*

John 15:16 *"You did not choose me, but **I chose you and appointed you** to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last."*

Acts 13:48b *"...and all who were **appointed for eternal life** believed."*

Romans 8:15-16 *"For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship (daughtership). And by him we cry 'Abba, Father'. **The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.**"*

So the sin nature is within us from conception, and it separates us from God. Psalm 51:5 (David) *"Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me."* Romans chapters 7 and 8 are full of references to our sin nature. And God must draw us to Jesus for salvation: John 6:44 *"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and **I will raise him up at the last day.**"* And Jesus is the only way to salvation and the Father: John 14:6 *"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"*

The grace of God once released upon a repentant believing soul will not be reclaimed by our Father when we falter. Confession as described in 1 John 1:9 brings out the full extent of grace: It is the ‘grace-act’ of God from beginning to end for which there is no end! Packer: “Our understanding of Christianity cannot be better than our grasp of adoption...God is a Father who keeps his children in faith and grace, and will not let them slip from his hand.”

The saved condition is permanent—once saved, always saved...if saved!

♥**Jude :24** (Jude’s doxology) *“To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy...”*

♥Can a believer actively choose to walk away? If one’s belief is in their ability to earn salvation by keeping the law, and therefore has rejected salvation by God’s grace alone, then yes, that one could walk away from that (erroneous) belief and be lost, because that one was not a true believer to begin with.

Galatians 5:4 *“You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace.”*

Romans 8:3-4 *“For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.”* A true believer who chooses to walk away into unbelief, would be put in a position to be convicted of his sin of turning away—like the prodigal in the parable Jesus told in Luke 15:11-32. The Father would take the penitent back because he is still his Father’s son (daughter)—adopted still!

1 John 3:1 *“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!”*

John 3:16 *“For God so loved (agape’) the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”*

♥ **GOD’S LOVE = Agape’**

Agape’ defined by Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:4a *“Love (agape’) is ♥patient; love (agape’) is ♥kind....”* God’s *agape’*—patience and kindness—leads us to salvation and repentance.

Patience: **2 Peter 3:15a** *“Bear in mind that our LORD’s patience means salvation....”*

Kindness: **Romans 2:4** *“Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God’s kindness leads you toward repentance?”*



With all that said, the Bible is replete with examples of God's sovereign will being carried out to the letter in bringing the elect to salvation—here are two:

- She was from an 'other' people—Moabite by birth—and she'd married into a nation of people whose God was the LORD. Ten years time brought the death of her father-in-law, and then her husband and his brother.

She loved her mother-in-law, but more importantly she was learning to love her God! So when her mother-in-law moved back to Canaan in Israel, she went too.

We know the full account of Ruth from Scripture, and how she met and married Boaz—the great grandfather of King David—and how she gave birth to Obed, and was placed in the lineage of the Messiah, Jesus the Christ!

There is a verse in the narrative of Ruth in 2:3 that calls out to us for special attention. A passage that will cause us to see our providential, planning God at work—Sovereign to carry out his every plan—who causes 'it' (his plan) to always **turn out!**

*“So she (Ruth) went out and began to glean in the fields behind the harvesters. As it **turned out**, she found herself working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelech (her now deceased father-in-law).”*

What are the chances of her gleaning in Boaz's field? Do we have any idea how many fields there were? Boaz had many workers, so what would be the chance of Ruth meeting Boaz himself? And we learn that chance had nothing whatsoever to do with the way things *turned out*; we know that God—Sovereign King—orchestrated salvation for his people, then, and for us today.

- Highly educated religiously and secularly, this Hebrew of Hebrews was rabidly against Jesus and all of his followers—men, women and children—even to killing them. (*As it turned out*) he was radically *turned around* on the road to Damascus, when Jesus called to him and he answered. Pharisee and agnostic, Saul became the believing Apostle Paul who wrote the largest portion of the New Testament and the “treatise on love and grace”! Who would've thought? Conversion of any soul won't happen without the Sovereign's work all over it?

So, we stand accepted in the *One* who never alters. We become daughters of the King, not by being born, but by being born again. Sonship (daughtership) to God, then, is a gift of grace. It is not natural birth, but adoptive. And if we know that the God of the universe, the Creator of the world and everything in it chose salvation and relationship with him for us, then that absolute knowledge of high privilege will bring assurance in the *One* who will never disinherit us—ever!

Charles Spurgeon: “If Jesus undertook to bring me to glory, and if the Father promised that he would give me to the Son to be a part of the infinite reward of the travail of His soul; then, my soul, till God himself shall be unfaithful, till Jesus shall cease to be the truth, thou art safe.”

♥She got up this morning, and like every morning she longed to greet her Father and learn the plans he had for her today. His room was down the hall, but as she moved to go...he was there! She recognized His presence and softly called to him, “Abba, Father” in the early dawn. And she worshiped him! As she scarcely found the words to give him proper due, she talked on and he listened. Then he spoke and she listened, as he read his letter to her once again!

She asked questions and he answered; and her talk-ability flowed out. But he said he didn’t mind, so she poured out her petitions for her family and her friends—concerns for those wandering, lost and sick. He voiced the plans he’d made for her this day, and she was overwhelmed with how wonderfully he had labored for her good. They shared a cup of coffee and a breakfast bar, and then he gently tucked his letter in her heart and reaffirmed his presence there.

She rose with confidence, knowing that whatever she would do that day and wherever she would go, every-moment access to her Father was assured. Her life held meaning and purpose as he would guide her every step. She had no inclination to be anxious for one thing, as every need would be provided. As she fixed her eyes on him and her heart obeyed in trust, her path would open up, and she would bless someone this day because the *Blessing* reigned within.

She knew the warmth of family—permanent and secure—not orphaned by her sin; as confession brought forgiveness and relationship renewed. She could lie down in peace this night and commit to her Father’s care. And if she passed from this life to the next, he’d be there in that ‘any’ hour to let her know the way. As she lived, she’d have the full assurance that she was elected before her natural birth—not because of worth in her, but in the Father’s Son.

She would know beyond all doubt that she had been adopted for eternity by the Father she adored, whose grip on her could never be undone...by anyone. Yes, she had chosen him but only after he had chosen her! And he would be entirely faithful to the end—of which there’d be no end. She was forever a child of God—Abba, Father, Sovereign—elected and chosen, adopted and claimed: Daughter of the King!

10-09, Jeanene Moore

We will not always live what we profess, but we will live what we truly believe.
Believe it: The adoption has been finalized! We are daughters of the King!