

# What is SONSHIP?

God who has blessed us and chosen us has also **“predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself”** Eph.1:5

**What does ‘adoption’ mean?**

Greek – *‘huio thesia’* the placing of a son.

**We are predestined to receive the placement as a son**

When we are born again we become children [sons] of God.

**“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children [sons] of God, to those who believe in His name”** Jn.1:12

As children we do not inherit  
**“Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all.” But is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father”**  
Gal.4:1-2

Children are subject to their parents: Jesus as a child was under the authority of Joseph & His mother

**“Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them”** Lu.2:51

Children are heirs but are under  
**“guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father”**  
Gal.4:2

Children are meant to grow up  
**“we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine...”** Eph.4:14

There comes a time when we ‘become of age’ – the age of maturity when we can receive the spirit of sonship/adoption  
**“For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship by whom we cry out, ‘Abba Father”**  
Rom.8:15 NIV

We are redeemed from under the law so that **“we might receive the adoption as sons”** Gal.4:5

The inheritance is for mature sons

**“Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ”**  
Gal.4:7

Jesus at the age of 30 came to the Jordan River to be baptised by John. The Father identified Jesus as His Son

**“And suddenly a voice came from heaven saying, ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased”**  
Matt.3:17

A son only does what the father tells him to do

***“The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner, For the Father loves the Son and shows Him all things that He Himself does” Jn.5:19-20***

Sons are those who are led by the Spirit

***“As many as are led by the Spirit of God they are the sons of God” Rom.8:14***

The Lord disciplines His sons

***“My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; for whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives” Heb.12:5-6***

Jesus has planted His sons [good seed] in the world

***“the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom” Matt.13:38***

These sons are the righteous ones who will ***“shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father”*** Matt.13:43 in the earth

Even creation is waiting for the sons of the kingdom to shine forth [manifest]

***“The earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing [manifestation] of the sons of God”*** Rom.8:19

God will give the inheritance to His sons

***“He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son”*** Rev.21:7

### Three stages of growth

1) **Salvation:** we are saved ***“by grace through faith”*** Eph.2:8 it is God who ***“establishes us”*** \* in the new birth

2) **Service:** we receive the empowerment of the **Holy Spirit** by grace through faith; it is God who ***“has anointed us”*** \*

3) **Sonship:** it is a work of grace by faith that we receive the **spirit of sonship** to be placed in the body as a mature son ready to receive and walk in our inheritance. It is God ***“who has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee”*** \*

\* 2Cor.1:21-22

**It is time:**

- ***to no longer be children***
- ***to grow up into maturity***
- ***to receive the placement of sons***
- ***to shine forth in the kingdom***
- ***to walk in our inheritance as sons***
- ***to know God as Father***

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