

An aerial photograph of a river winding through a valley. The river is a vibrant turquoise color, contrasting with the green and brown of the surrounding landscape. The river flows from the top left towards the bottom right, curving around a central mountain range. The sky is a pale, hazy blue. The overall scene is a natural, scenic view of a river valley.

WHO DO
YOU
THINK
YOU ARE?

An aerial photograph of a wide river valley, likely the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, showing a winding river through a rugged, mountainous landscape. A semi-transparent white circle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text.

2. **God is Father; we are adopted children**

@simongharris

@burlington_ips

#whodoyouthinkyouare?

God is revealed as Father

(i) in creation

Genesis 1:27

So God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

WHO DO
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God is revealed as Father (ii) in the Old Testament

Hosea 11:1

When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son ...
I led them with cords of human kindness,
with ties of love.

To them I was like one who lifts
a little child to the cheek,
and I bent down to feed them.

WHO DO
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God is revealed as Father (ii) in the Old Testament

Psalm 68:5

A father to the fatherless, a defender of
widows,
is God in his holy dwelling.

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God is revealed as Father

(iii) *supremely* in Jesus

Luke 11:1

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”

He said to them, “When you pray, say: “Father,…”

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God is revealed as Father

(iii) *supremely* in Jesus

Mark 14:36

Abba, Father,” he said, “everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”

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God is revealed as Father (iv) in the New Testament

Galatians 4:6

Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.”

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God has adopted us

Mega theme: From slavery to sonship

Deuteronomy 7:7-8

But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

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Mega theme: From slavery to sonship

Exodus 4:22-23

Then say to Pharaoh, 'This is what the Lord says: Israel is my firstborn son, and I told you, "Let my son go, so he may worship me." But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.'

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God has adopted us

Mega theme: From slavery to sonship

Galatians 4:4-7

God sent his Son,...to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.' So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

#whodoyouthinkyouare?

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Mega theme: From slavery to sonship

ADOPTION

WHO DO
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God has adopted us

Mega theme: From slavery to sonship

Ephesians 2:12

Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

WHO DO
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God has adopted us

Mega theme: From slavery to sonship

1 Peter 1:18-19

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

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God has adopted us

Mega theme: From slavery to sonship

Ephesians 1:4-5

In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will

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Mega theme: From slavery to sonship

John 3:1

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

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God has adopted us

(i) we belong

Ephesians 2:19

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household,

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God has adopted us

(ii) we've a Father

Romans 8:15

The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.'

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God has adopted us

(iii) we've a family

Ephesians 2:19

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household,

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God has adopted us

(iv) we're planned

Ephesians 1:4-6

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will - 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

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God has adopted us

(v) we're chosen!

Ephesians 1:4-6

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God has adopted us (vi) we're loved!

Ephesians 1:4-6

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship 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.

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God has adopted us (vii) we're delighted in!

Ephesians 1:4-6

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will - 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

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God has adopted us (viii) we're free!

Colossians 1:13-14

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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God has adopted us (ix) we're a chip off the old block!

2 Corinthians 3:18

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

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God has adopted us (x) we're heirs!

Romans 8:16-17

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs - heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

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God has adopted us (x) we're heirs!

2 Corinthians 1:20-22

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. And so through him the 'Amen' is spoken by us to the glory of God. Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

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Embrace the Spirit of adoption

Is God Judge or Father?

Romans 8:15

The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.'

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Embrace the Spirit of adoption

Is God Judge or Father?

John 14:18

I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you



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