

Our Heavenly Father.

**Matt. 6:25 – 34**

When you think of these words, what comes to your thoughts? When you do think of our Heavenly Father, what goes through your mind? God is not our earthly father and a dad but is the King of Kings and Lord of all lords. He is to be revered in every thought or action, not just as a Father. It is a disgrace that most of the Christian people today does not even know what is meant by the term (Heavenly Father) because they do not understand sonship. When most believers think about the Son of God it is only Jesus they think of, and not that of ourselves. Paul wrote in **2 Corinthians 6:18** *“And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”* God is not just our God, King, and Lord, but also our Father that is also all these other titles.

One cannot understand the proper relationship of God and His children is we do not understand our proper relationship to God as His children. We are made His children through His divine power and glory. People who refuse to believe that truth cheapens God of His glory and robs God of His Attributes that brings our sonship about.

Let us look at how our sonship is brought about.

A. How does God become our Father?

1. To be a father one must biologically father the children.
  - a. Now, I am not speaking of some men and their irresponsible and failures in life toward their children.
  - b. I am only speaking of pure fatherhood, a birth father. I am not forgetting or speaking of men who raise another mans child called a stepfather. But biologically blood fathers.
2. God’s spiritual children were begat of God.
  - a. **James 1:17 - 18** *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. (18) Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.”* – the word “begat” means - to breed forth, - Per Strongs. – Vines defines this word as -to bud or spring up,

brought forth" i.e., "caused to produce." This means God caused or produced our new birth. Think of it as God generated our being as children.

- b. John defined this word "begat" in **John 1:12 - 13** "*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: (13) Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*" This is the best definition of the word "begat."
  - c. Jesus described the word begat this way in **John 3:3** "*Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*" – The words "born again" means - to procreate "pro·cre·ate," (properly of the father, but by extension of the mother) – Per Strongs. Or to begat, conceive, or to be delivered of.
  - d. Therefore, as God's children we are given our birth as a mother delivers a child, God delivers us as His children. Nicodemus understood this as he asked the question, **John 3:4** "*Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?*" Nicodemus was a very intelligent Jewish man, he understood the language Jesus spoke, he just did not understand the process of being begat a second time.
3. People who do not understand the process of God in salvation, cheapens God of His glory in saving their soul. Fails to understand the power of God in salvation and fails to understand true sonship.
- B. How does God bring this sonship about?
1. Being a child of God, a child of the King of kings is a miracle.
    - a. **Eph. 2:1 – 3** "*And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; (2) Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: (3) Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.*" – This all describes a soul that is unsavable.
    - b. Paul wrote to Titus this description of mankind. **Titus 3:3** "*For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and*

*pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.*” This describes a soul that is unsavable.

- c. John described our lost state this way, **1 John 1:8** “*If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*” – doesn’t people think of people as good? Doesn’t it take good to recognize sinfulness? Paul wrote in **Galatians 6:3** “*For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.*” And Paul spoke not only of us, but also himself. **Rom. 7:18** “*For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.*”
- d. Then Job asked this question, **Job 14:4** “Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.” – only God.

C. Therefore, we must conclude that salvation is not by choice.

1. We cannot birth ourselves, neither naturally nor spiritually. We are begat both times.
2. God concluded of our ability in salvation in **Romans 3:10 - 11** “*As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: (11) There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.” - **Isaiah 9:13** “*For the people turneth not unto him that smiteth them, neither do they seek the LORD of hosts.”**
3. The only choice about our salvation was God’s choice. **2 Thessalonians 2:13 - 14** “*But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: (14) Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.” – He does not say by our choice, because it is not!*

D. We are God’s children by His giving birth and adoption.

1. This adoption is God’s stamp of Fatherhood. **Ephesians 1:4 - 5** “*According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: (5) Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,” – Adopted children do not choose, the parents choose. Chosen by His good will, not ours.*

2. **Romans 8:14-17** *“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.”* God’s Spirit does not fail, if He leads us, we will be born from above.

E. Our birth is recognized when we believe, and cry *“Abba, Father.”*

1. The faith we are saved by is not our faith, but God-given faith. **Romans 10:17** *“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”*

2. Not all will believe, because there was no quickening **“Romans 10:16** *“But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?”*

3. God is not your Heavenly Father, until the Holy Spirit quickens, calls, gives faith, and causes one to hear. **1 Thessalonians 1:4 - 5** *“Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God. (5) For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.”*