

## 50 POSITIONAL TRUTHS

### #23: Adoption

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Given, as we have studied in the past five doctrines, that every believer is a born again child of God, the question arises as to the need for “adoption.” Why do we need to be adopted if we are born again into the Family of God? This requires understanding the isagogics behind the concept.

The Greek word for “adoption” is *huiiothesia*, which means “the placing of an adult son,” and refers to the formal act of recognizing the *maturity of an adult son*.

In the Greek and Roman culture, *huiiothesia* would bring to mind the ceremony of the toga virilis, in which a 14-year-old boy went through an investiture ceremony with the adult male members of his family. At this ceremony there were various speeches made to challenge the young man. Then, the boy would stand in the center of the group and take off the child’s garment that he wore. A new adult man’s robe, or toga, would be placed on him. This was the toga virilis, the “robe of a man.”

At this time the 14-year-old was given adult privileges and responsibilities. He could conduct business in his own name, could buy and sell property, could marry, could vote in the Assembly, and in many other ways could carry on as an adult citizen. The seriousness of this new position as a citizen and the importance of integrity and character was pressed upon him.

The beauty of this positional truth of adoption is that even though when we are born again we are spiritual babes, positionally we have been given a *position* of privilege and responsibility. Because spiritual adoption takes place at the moment of salvation, there is really no period of childhood as far as available resources. Positionally, all believers have full adult access to the power and grace resources of God. Every Christian at the point of salvation has been positionally placed into the privilege, liberty, and duty of a full-grown adult. Every believer has access to the full ministry of the Holy Spirit. The spiritual resources are available to a baby believer as much as a mature believer. Positionally, we are not considered baby believers. Positionally we are adult strong doctrinal believers with all of the resources we need before the throne of Grace.

God does not wait until we reach maturity before doling out more grace resources. They are all there the nanosecond we believe in Jesus Christ as we are placed in union with Jesus Christ as adult sons and daughters. Let’s move forward to see to it that our experience matches our position.

#### **Positional truth #23: Adoption**

**Romans 8:15** For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"

**Romans 8:23** And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body

**Galatians 4:5** in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

**Ephesians 1:5** He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,

Existing by Esse,

*Pastor Don*