

Scriptures: Romans 8:12-18; Galatians 3:26 - 4:7

Singing: 92:1, 5 – 160:1-4 – 229:3, 6 – 72:4

Intro: Your greatest need can be met by none other than God alone!

A. God pictures His salvation in many familiar (homely) pictures

1. All reveal what was in His eternal mind: Eph. 1:4; 5

2. His salvation work *in us* starts with the 'new birth' (John 1:13; 3:5, 8)

AS A BELIEVER IN JESUS, YOU ARE GIVEN GREATER BLESSINGS THAN FORGIVENESS!

I. The Gospel declares that as believers in Jesus you are pardoned of your sins

A. Consider Acts 10:43; 13:38-39; Rom. 5:1; 10:9-10, 11

1. "But I still feel my sins as a burden on my conscience?"

B. Yet God's benefits far exceed the pardon of sin: John 1:12; 2 Cor 6:18

II. The Gospel declares that as believers in Christ you are adopted by the Father

A. What is adoption?

1. God revealed He adopted sinners to be His children in Christ (Eph. 1:5)

2. When He leads you to faith, you receive all *privileges and rights* of a child

a. to be adopted *does not change your **nature** but your **status***

b. to be adopted means you are a *joint-heir* with Jesus Christ: Rom. 8:17

B. How to know you are adopted? (Gal. 4:5-7; Eph. 1:13-14; 2 Cor. 3:18)

III. The Gospel declares that as believers you are entitled to the rights of adoption

A. The sampling details of God's revealed will or testament for His children:

1. He will *look after you* as no father ever will: Phil. 4:19; Matt. 6:26-30

2. He will *assure you* of your status as child: Romans 8:15-1

3. He will provide access to stand before the Father: Romans 5:2; Eph. 3:12

4. He will deliver eventually deliver you completely: Rom. 8:21

5. He will surround you with His angels as His minister: Heb. 1:14

6. He will remember that you are still a weak saint: Ps. 103:13-14

7. He will change you to become holy like His Son: Heb. 12:6; 1 John 3:2

8. He will receive you into His mansions as joint heirs with Christ: John 14:1-3

9. He will renew earth for His sons/daughters: Rev. 21:2

Loved with everlasting love,
Led by grace that love to know;
Gracious Spirit from above,
Thou hast taught me it is so!
Oh, this full and perfect peace!
Oh, this transport all divine!
In a love which cannot cease,
I am His, and He is mine;
In a love which cannot cease,
I am His, and He is mine.

Heav'n above is softer blue,
Earth around is sweeter green;
Something lives in every hue
Christless eyes have never seen;
Birds with gladder songs o'erflow,
Flow'rs with deeper beauties shine,
Since I know, as now I know,
I am His, and He is mine;
Since I know, as now I know,
I am His, and He is mine.

Things that once were wild alarms
Cannot now disturb my rest,
Closed in everlasting arms,
Pillowed on His loving breast;
Oh, to lie forever here,
Doubt, care, and self resign
While He whispers in my ear
I am His, and He is mine;
While He whispers in my ear
I am His, and He is mine.

His forever, only His;
Who the Lord and me shall part?
Ah, with what a rest of bliss
Christ can fill the loving heart!
Heav'n and earth may fade and flee,
Firstborn light in gloom decline,
But while God and I shall be,
I am His, and He is mine;
But while God and I shall be,
I am His, and He is mine.¹

George Wade Robinson (1838-76)