

The Adopted Heart

Romans 8:15-19 For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself bears 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. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waits for the manifestation of the sons of God.

Psalm 27:10 "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up."

Psalm 34:18 "The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saves such as be of a contrite spirit."

Psalm 68:5-6 "A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in His holy habitation."

Psalm 91:1 "He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust: His truth shall be thy shield and buckler."

Psalm 121:7-8 "The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: He shall preserve thy soul. The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore."

Psalm 147:3 "He heals the broken in heart and binds up their wounds."

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

Joel 2:25 "And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you...."

Romans 8:38-39 "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God has before ordained that we should walk in them...."

Revelation 3:8 "I know thy works: behold, I have set before you an open door, and no man can shut it: for you have a little strength, and have kept My word, and hast not denied My name.."

I know it can be hard to start to feel like God loves you. But He does. Leif Hetland says: "If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it. If God had a tree, He'd carve your name on it. You are His happy thought!" And it's true. Think of His love as stretching even farther than that. God loves you so much that...

- If God had a nightstand, your photo would be on it.
- If God had some spray paint, He'd go to a wall and draw hearts all over it with "PAPA + YOUR NAME" written inside.
- If God had a wallet, your picture would be in it.
- If God had a mantel, your baby shoes would be bronzed and displayed on it.
- If God had a Christmas tree, He'd make an ornament with your picture and the year of your birth: "Baby's first Christmas!"
- He keeps your love letters (your prayers) with Him in Heaven all the time.
- He's spent so much time ruffling through your hair that He has counted every hair on your head.