

Adoption – Romans 8 – Sermon Notes

Mission: Sharing the Love of God Beyond Sunday

Big Idea: The Love of God wants the best for you.

Your Father loves you. Nothing can change that fact.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

– Romans 8:38-39

Dallas Willard

[Followers of Christ should] dearly love and constantly delight in that “heavenly Father” made real to earth in Jesus and [be] quite certain that there is no “catch,” no limit, to the goodness of his intentions or to his power to carry them out. – p 321 The Divine Conspiracy

I find it interesting that it so easy to think your dad is mad at you.

God is the Father, the adoptive Father.

- He chose you.
- He sacrificed for you.
- He has a plan for you.
- He is very patient with you.

This Father wants your... happiness, success, maturity, well being, strength, ... more than anything else in the universe.

This Father isn't threatening you with hell. This Father wants to save you from the inevitable hell that waits for all of us if we are left alone with our choices.

Your Father wants the best for you

AND has the power to make it happen

AND has built your success into the fabric of the universe.

Now when I say success, let me go back to what I said a few minutes ago -- happiness, success, maturity, well being, strength, ...

And there is no doubt that this kind of maturity often requires some suffering in your life. The child who gets everything he wants and never struggles for anything almost always grows up to be a worthless adult.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. – Romans 8:28

For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. – Romans 8:9

Your Father wants a deep transformation in you and sends the Holy Spirit to help you even when you don't know what to do.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation— but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. – Romans 8:12-13

Life is on the other side of this deep transformation.

We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. – Romans 8:26b

Conclusion

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? – Romans 8:31