

Culture of the Kingdom Part 3
Sonship and Citizenship

Galatians 4:6 ESV

“And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

Sonship gives me access to things I didn't work for simply because I'm a son.

Sons carry the spirit of their fathers by **two methods**,

1. In their biological make up or DNA and design
2. By experience or knowledge
3. Sons of God carry his spirit sons of Darkness carry the devils spirit

Proof text:

Ephesians 2:1-2 ESV “And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—”

Sons NOT DAUGHTERS are HEIRS, HEIRS receive the keys to the kingdom or inheritance!

Sons have a RIGHT to whatever their fathers possess.

All sons have to do is wait for the appointed time.

Turn to Galatians 4:

Galatians 4:1-7 ESV

1. **“I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything,**
2. **but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father.**
3. **In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world.**

4. **But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,**

- The idea behind the phrase **the fullness of time** is “when the time was right.” Jesus came at just the right time in God’s redemptive plan, when the world was perfectly prepared for God’s work.
- Jesus came not only as God’s **Son**, but also as one **born of a woman, born under law**. The eternal Son of God in heaven added humanity to His deity and became a man, **born of a woman, born under law**. **To redeem those who were under the law**: Because Jesus is God, He has the power and the resources to **redeem** us. Because Jesus is man, He has the right and the ability to **redeem** us. He came to purchase us out of the slave market, from our bondage to sin and *the elements of the world*.

5. **to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.**

- **To redeem those who were under the law**: Because Jesus is God, He has the power and the resources to **redeem** us. Because Jesus is man, He has the right and the ability to **redeem** us. He came to purchase us out of the slave market, from our bondage to sin and *the elements of the world*.

6. **And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.”**

- “God’s purpose was not only to secure our sonship by His Son, but to assure us of it by His Spirit. **He sent His Son that we might have the *status* of sonship, and He sent His Spirit that we might have an *experience* of it.**”
- It is fitting that those who are in fact sons have the **Spirit of the Son** in their **hearts**. This gives us both the **right and the ability** to cry out “ABBA!” to God our Father, even as Jesus did to His Father.
- The Holy Spirit is so vital to the life of a Kingdom Citizen because if the world knows that we would need a guidance counselor in school, of course God would know to give us his spirit to dwell within us leading us and guiding us into the truth and power of

the kingdom. **WE HAVE THE ULTIMATE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR**

- Sons are never slaves and slaves are never sons in their father's house. Jesus illustrated this in the parable of the prodigal son, where the son was determined to return to his father as a slave – but the father refused, and would only receive him as a son.
- Our release from slavery, our sonship, the Spirit of Jesus in our hearts, and our status as heirs of God are all birthrights given to us in Jesus. We receive them **through Christ**. These are things we should be living in and enjoying every day of our Christian life.

This is also synonymous with kingdom citizenship.

Because of the redemptive work of Christ on calvary, we who were sinners were bought with a price (1 Corinthians 6:20), adopted as sons and given the spirit of our father (Holy Spirit) so that we are now an HEIR through God.

Citizen: an inhabitant of a city or town
especially : one entitled to the rights and privileges of a freeman and member of that country or kingdom

- **Sons have rights = Citizens have rights**
- **Sons are entitled to their inheritance = Citizens are entitled to the benefits of that kingdom**

Lets read what it means to become a U.S. Citizens from their website:

Ephesians 2:11-22 ESV

“Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now

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in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Communion

"For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." 1

Corinthians 11:23-26