

1. Chosen In Him

- **Foreknown**, Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
- **Elect**, 1 Thessalonians 1:4, Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.
Rom 8:33, Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.
- Col 3:12, Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;
- **Predestined** Eph 1:11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will
- **Chosen** 1 Pet 2:4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,
- **Called** Rom 9:11 For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

Barclay: But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a people dedicated to God, a nation for him specially to possess that you might tell forth the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his glorious light (Westminster Press)

2. Adopted By Christ

- **Born again**: 1 Pet 1:23 "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever".
- **Sons of God**: 1 John 3:2 "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is".
- **New Creation**: 2 Cor 5:17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new".
- **Adopted**: Rom 8:15 "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father".
- **Heirs**: Gal 4:7 "Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ".

When we come to faith in Christ, our debts are cancelled, we are given a new name, and we are given all the rights that heirs of God possess. One difference from Roman adoption is that Christians are not adopted because God thinks they will make worthy heirs. God adopts people who are completely unworthy, because He adopts on the basis of His grace.

3. Accepted in the beloved

- **His Gift**: John 6:37 — "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and whoever comes to Me I will never cast out
- **His Bride**: 2 Corinthians 11:2 — "For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ."
- **His Inheritance**: Ephesians 1:18 — "... that you may know what is the hope to which He has called you, what are the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints."
- **His Possession**: Ephesians 1:14 — "... who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory."

So this begs the question Spurgeon once posed to his congregation "Can you put your hand upon our heart, and say, "I may not be accepted by my fellow-creatures, I may not be acknowledged by them; and, certainly, before my God, I can never be accepted in myself; but in the Beloved, clothed with His righteousness, and standing in His Person, as a member of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones, I am 'ACCEPTED IN THE BELOVED'?"