

The Assurance of Being Sons of God

(Romans 8:12-15)

Introduction:

- List three things you would like assurance about
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
- God provides assurance of being s_____ of God.
 1. The Greek text distinguishes between ch_____ of God & sons of God; verse 14 should be translated as “sons”
 2. Sonship is not related to g_____
 3. If this assurance casts d_____, then you may not be saved. Assurance is always given to the believer.

The S_____ of a Son (12-14)

- The test of being a “son” is not the past (when you prayed, were baptized, etc.) but the p_____ - *all who are being led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God.*
 1. The Greek emphasizes a continuous action
 2. The action of leading is not dependent on our o_____
 - a. Our obligation (KJV – debt) is not to the f_____ (NIV – sinful nature) – see verses 12,13a
 - b. Our obligation is to the S_____ - verse 13b
- Believers are not led by the flesh but by the Spirit; however, we are tempted by the flesh.
 1. Temptation – a luring by taunting or teasing into a t_____, appealing to our wants or desires
 2. Leading – bringing into a definite d_____ regardless of our desires
 - a. Leading depends on the p_____ of the one leading, not the willingness of the one being led (see Matt 21:2 that uses the same word)
 - b. Temptation depends on the cooperation of the one being tempted.
- Believers must distinguish between temptation and leading
 1. F_____
 2. R_____
 3. See Acts 16:6-10 (we can look back and see how the Spirit was leading – this is assurance of His continued leading)

The S_____ of Son (15)

- Sonship emphasizes something different than being a ch_____

1. We have received a spirit of a _____
 - a. The Greek word for adoption literally means to be placed as a s_____ (and so some translate as “adoption as sons”, or “sonship”).
 - b. Paul is using the R_____ law of adoption as an illustration since he is writing to believers in Rome.
 - 1) An adopted son had all the rights and privileges of a n_____ son, including inheritances.
 - 2) We all were born as children of w_____ (Eph 2:3).
 - 3) When we were saved (adopted), we became sons of God, and will in_____ everything Jesus does (Jesus is “the only begotten” or unique Son)
2. The inheritance is r_____ in heaven and will not fade away (I Pet 1:4,5)
 - a. This means that once you are a son, you will a_____ be a son. Your status will never change!
 - b. The details of this inheritance is another sermon.

The S_____ in a Son (15)

- The word “spirit” has a variety of meanings (attitude, human spirit, evil spirit, Holy Spirit). The c_____ determines the meaning.
 1. The subject before and a_____ verse 15 is the Holy Spirit
 2. The verse could mean “attitude” but it is more plausible to refer to the k_____ of Spirit the Holy Spirit is!
 - a. He is not a Spirit who enslaves with f_____ again (notice the word “again”)
 - 1) In the Old Testament, s_____ used the the Law to enslave people to fear
 - 2) Obedience to God was many times out of fear (Ex 32:1-4;28,35; Numbers 16:29-35)
 - b. He is the kind of Spirit who produces a personal loving relationship (A_____, Father)
 - a. An Aramaic term of endearment like our d_____
 - b. We relate to God not through rules, fear, religion, but through His S_____
- The indwelling Holy Spirit, who connects us intimately with God, is our a_____ that we are sons of God