

THE SONS OF GOD

By: Phillip Hayes

"He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" [John 1:11-13].

This is the first reference of the sons of God found in the New Testament. Notice carefully, these sons of God that received our Lord Jesus were born, not of blood, nor by the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God! In other words, these sons of God were not born by physical means, these were birthed by God. These are the born again sons of the Living God! Mankind that is born of a woman are all sons of Adam. This is why you must be born again to become a son of God.

God the Father has bestowed this awesome title to all those that receive Christ and have experienced the new birth of the Spirit. The Apostle John declared in his first epistle that we are now the sons of God! *"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. 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" [1John 3:1-2].*

God has predestinated the sons of God to be conformed to the image of Christ. John says we shall be like Him! Praise the Lord! This was the secret of God from the

beginning of time! *"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" [Romans 8:29].*

The scriptures are filled with hints of the great mystery of God! Let's look further and see how God has always had an awesome plan for mankind.

"For unto the angels hath he not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak. But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him? Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him" [Hebrews 2:5-8].

All things that God has created has been placed under the feet of man! All things! Man has been crowned with glory and honor and placed over the works of God's hands! This scripture says that God has left nothing that is not placed under man. When I read this, I just want to raise my hands and say Glory to God, Thank you Jesus!!

Thank God, there is a new dawning coming for the sons of God. And it will not be like anything this world has ever witnessed.

"But we see Jesus . . ." [Hebrews 2:9].

We don't see everything put under us yet. We still have problems, troubles, sickness, and every once in a while we see Jesus when a soul is saved, or when someone receives a miraculous healing. We see glimpses' of Jesus.

We see Jesus, when He moves by His Anointing Power. We see Him when He gives a word of knowledge, or when He reveals a mystery to us. *We see Jesus.* We see Him through the scriptures; all the great things He did.

Although all things have been placed under the authority of the sons of God, we don't see it manifested as yet, but we see Him. Yes, when we see the miraculous power of God being performed, WE SEE JESUS.

"For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren" [Hebrews 2:10-11].

I don't want Jesus to be ashamed to call me brother. If we are brothers of Jesus, that means we have been born of the same Spirit, we have the same Father. Remember the scripture says we are one spirit with the Lord (See 1Corinthians 6:17). And again, the scriptures make it plain, *"For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones" [Ephesians 5:30]*. You cannot separate the body (church) of Christ from Jesus. We are one! Neither can you separate Christ from God, they are One! Glory to Jesus, we are one with God through our Lord Jesus Christ! Same flesh, same bones, SAME SPIRIT. We are partakers of His Divine Nature! We are part of Him and He is part of us. We are one! There is neither Jew nor Greek, bond nor free, black, red nor white, male nor female. We are new creatures. We are sons of God! We are one with God! Believe it and receive it!

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast" [Ephesians 2:8-9].

In other words, there is not anything you can do about it. He just saved you because He loved you. You did not love Him! You loved the world, you loved this flesh, you loved the things of the world, you loved all of that the world offered, you did not love God.

God loved you, elected you, and saved you. He Chose you, you didn't choose Him! And that is the wonderful thing about our God, He does the choosing, and He knows them that are His.

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcised by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands" [Ephesians 2:10-11].

We are His workmanship, His creation, His product! Now an un-circumcised person would be someone that is not a Jew. If a Gentile was circumcised in the flesh he would only become a proselyte into the Jew's religion. He would still be a Gentile.

But we know that true circumcision is not of the flesh but of the heart, and that is what the Holy Ghost brought us. When one is spiritually circumcised in their heart, they become sons of God!

"That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world" [Ephesians 2:12].

We were nothing; we had no life. Before Christ came there was no hope, we were all under the penalty of death. God had said in the beginning: *"this day thou shalt surely die."* They died, they had no life; it seems cruel that because of one man's sin, (Adam), all lost their life, but thank God, because of one man's obedience, (Jesus), all can now live (Romans 5:19)!

I think the more you understand this the more you will see what the preaching of the gospel really brings.

None would argue that Jesus is the Light of the world! But few realize that Jesus said we would also be the light of the world! *"Ye are the light of the world. A city that*

is set on an hill cannot be hid" [Matthew 5:14]. Never forget, sons of God are called to be lights shining brightly in this dark world! Look how the Apostle Paul challenges the church, "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life" [Philippians 2:15, 16].

Sons of God, our responsibility is to be the lights in this world God has called us to be! Our responsibility is to live a life without rebuke, being blameless and harmless. Apostle Paul challenges us to "hold forth the Word of Life! We have a life giving Spirit in us! It's called the Holy Ghost!

People have asked me, "Brother Hayes, don't you think that God will save people who live in remote parts of the world without someone preaching Jesus to them?"

My answer is an emphatic, "No". They are lost without hope unless the life giving message of the gospel reaches them. Jesus said, ". . . *I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me*" [St. John 14:6]. No matter if they are Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Gentiles or Heathen, all are lost without Christ. That is all there is to it. There is no hope outside of Jesus Christ. None whatsoever, they are all dead! I truly wish that all of you could perceive that the church has resurrection power abiding in it! That we can and must raise the dead! The sons of God are the only ones that have the power of life. Jesus freely gave life to us, and we should freely give life to a lost and dying world. The Gospel is the Power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16)!

Just think a moment about what I just said . . . "What if all of mankind outside Christ, is really dead. What if it was really true that you were the only one that could bring them back to life? Would this revelation impact your

life, change your direction? Would it now be very important for you to reach everyone you could before it was too late?

Believe it or not, that is the responsibility the Apostles and the early church had! They were to go forth into a dying world covered with gross darkness and bring them life. This is why Jesus said the Spirit would be like a well of water springing up into everlasting life (St. John 4:10-14). That out of your belly would flow rivers of living water (St. John 7:38). They partook of that quickening (life giving) Spirit and they also imparted the Spirit. Jesus told them, *"Freely ye receive, freely give."* Their message was LIFE and thus, that is the message of today. We have the same message and the same Power!

"But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain (that is two) one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby" [Ephesians 2:13-16].

Thank God, He is making IN HIMSELF of twain (two), ONE NEW MAN. This is that new creation man I call the Third Man. What is it? It is the body of Christ being conformed to the image of the Son of God. John said, *"We shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."* Dear reader, can you see Jesus? Can you see Him as He is?

"Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, According to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: 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" [Ephesians 1:9-11].

There is a mystery being made known. The mystery being revealed: "God is creating man in his own image." A brand new creation takes place in your inner man when you are born again! *"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" [2Corinthians 5:17].* God's Spirit is in the inner man. (See Ephesians 3:16).

In the fullness of times God's good pleasure will be completed! God has predestinated a people! That's right, we are predestinated! We are children of destiny. It will come to pass and nothing can stop it. We are God's sons and we will be one with our God. Thank God, at last, we will be in His glorious, perfect image. We will be like Jesus, because God said it! It is His will!

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" [Romans 8:28].

What is God's purpose? His ultimate purpose is to create man in His own image. To be exactly like Him!

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" [Ephesians 4:11-13].

What is perfection? Completeness! You can't add to it. Perfection is maturity, and the ministry is given for the perfecting of the saints until we all come into the unity of the faith unto a perfect man: *The Body of Christ Perfected*. Perfection is being exactly like God intended for us to be in the beginning. Created and then conformed to His exact image; unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of

Christ! I am not talking about physically, I am talking about inwardly (spiritually, emotionally, and mentally). I am talking about getting every thought under captivity of Christ, bringing everything under subjection to Him, our wills, our ambitions, and our lives under the obedience of the Holy Ghost. We must come to the same place Jesus did; *"Nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done"* [Luke 22:42].

"For whom he did foreknow . . ." [Romans 8:29]. To foreknow something is to know it before hand. Before God created a star, He knew exactly what He was going to do.

You can't deceive God. He knows all things! God is God. He created good, and evil: *"I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things"* [Isaiah 45:7]. He created everything for His own purpose. He created the waster to destroy (Isaiah 54:16). He created the devil as an adversary. He created everything by Jesus and for Jesus.

God knew and declared the end from the beginning! *"Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure"* [Isaiah 46:10]. He knows everything, and in His foreknowledge He foreknew a people.

"For whom he did foreknow. . ." (Romans 8:29). God *foreknew* a people! Do you believe your name was written in the Lamb's book of life before the foundation of the world? (See Revelation 13:8; 17:8) I absolutely believe He knows who is going to be saved tomorrow and throughout time. If He did not know, He could not be God!

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate . . ." (Romans 8:29)."

Now to predestinate is to predetermine something. Now we can predetermine something and it not happen, but what God predetermines or predestinates will come to pass.

How does it happen? God makes it happen. He raises up evil men, He raises up good men, He raises up weak men, He raises up strong men, He raises up strong women, He raises up weak women, He sends gifts of His Spirit and He sends lying spirits, He does everything according to His own purpose. *"And all things work to the good, to them that love God, who are the called according to his purpose" [Romans 8:28].* God's purpose for you is to be like Him.

Let's finish Romans 8:29: *". . . He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren".*

Some think Adam was the firstborn. But no, Adam was the first man *created by God*. Jesus was *the first man born of God*. *"That He, (Jesus), might be the first man born among many brethren."*

In Revelation 3:14, Jesus said, *"These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God."* Isn't that amazing! The beginning of the creation of God?! Another thing that amazes me is the placement of this statement. This statement is made to the Laodicean church. The seventh church, the last church dispensation! Can you see what I see? Although the spiritual condition of Laodicea was horrible, "lukewarm, blind, miserable and naked"; the promise to those within it was probably the greatest. Here it is, *"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne" [Revelation 3:21].* Wow! Allowed to sit on the Throne of God!

This last church is the one that will attain perfection, the fullness of the new creation that is in Christ Jesus! *". . . We will be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is" [1John 3:2].* When? At the last time, the last church age!

Jesus was the first man born of God. The only begotten of the Father! He was born in the exact likeness and image of God, by birth. *"Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature" [Colossians 1:15].* And He is bringing many sons into the same glory. (See Hebrews 2:10).

He is not coming back for a carnal, sin laden, lukewarm church! He is coming back for a Perfect (mature) Glorious church that has attained unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ! His church has been sanctified and cleansed by the Word of God! *"That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish" [Ephesians 5:26-27].*

Do you remember reading where the Apostle Paul was caught up into the third heaven and given things that was unlawful for him to speak? I believe some of what I am revealing in this message is what Paul saw. Although Paul had healed the sick, cast out devils, raised the dead, and had performed many other great works; he was not satisfied. There was yet something more he was contending for. His prayer was, *"Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus" [Philippians 3:12].* Christ had "apprehended" him, but now Paul wanted to "apprehend" Christ!

It is a wonderful revelation knowing that Jesus has taken His abode in you by the Holy Spirit. But we should strive to achieve complete oneness with God, by abiding in Him. Jesus lives in you, now you must live in Him!

"Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified" [Romans 8:30].

This may sound strange to you, but God has already completed His work in you. As far as God is concerned, it is finished. In His mind, the end has already come, as He declared the end from the beginning when He said, *"Let us make man in our own image!"*

What is going to happen in the end? The image that He declared in creation, is going to come forth in the exact likeness of what He created through and by Christ. And this new creation man, in the image of God, is going to have dominion over all the earth. The Bible says we will rule and reign with Christ a thousand years! Why? Because God predestinated it from the beginning that it would happen in the end.

Now, let us not forget that the end of the world can be summed up as a field being harvested. Thus far, I have emphasized the sons of God coming to maturity and being revealed or manifested (Romans 8:19). There is also another maturity coming into view. As a matter of fact you can plainly see it in the world today.

In Matthew chapter thirteen Jesus explained His parable of the sower, *"The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one. The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels" [Matthew 13:38-39].*

Jesus plainly said the harvest is the end of the world. Harvesting is done when the seed that was sown grows to maturity and is fully ripe. Much like a vegetable garden. You wouldn't gather your beans before they were ready. Neither would you harvest your wheat or barley fields before they were fully ready. The color of wheat would go from golden to white. *"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" [St. John 4:35].*

Therefore, in the end of the world there will be two seeds coming to maturity or perfection. Remember, Jesus said there were two seeds that are sown. The good seed which is the true church and the tares which are the children of the wicked one. Jesus sowed the good seed. The devil sowed the tares.

Throughout the world (which is the field Jesus spoke of) we see the seed of the children of the devil coming to the fullness. Horrible atrocities are being committed in the name of their god! Men and women mutilating innocent men, women, boys and girls. Babies being snatched from their mothers and beheaded in front of them. Christians in America that believed in the doctrine of the rapture which taught the church would never face tribulations and persecutions are now seeing Christians and other innocent people being mutilated, beheaded and crucified.

I see the image of the beast rising in the world today! Men and women that are not born again are becoming ravaging beasts without any regard for human life. They would rape and mutilate your wife, cut your children's heads off right in front of you before they crucified you. They would do all this in the name of their god and rejoice over it! What you are witnessing is a religious seed becoming fully ripe, fully evil. They are of their father, the devil! Surely, you can see the seed of the wicked one coming to maturity.

Jesus said the end time would be like the days of Noah. Genesis describes the horrible condition of man in that day: *"And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart" [Genesis 6:5-6].*

Mankind had achieved the fullness of evil and it repented God that He had made man! (See Genesis 6:7)

Jesus said it would be the same in the days of the coming of the Son of man (Matthew 24).

The tares and the wheat are growing together! They are in the same field! Each seed growing, growing, growing; and now they are becoming white ready to be harvested. One seed full of the devil, the other full of God!

This is why I believe we are so very close to the manifestation or revealing of the sons of God. We see the wickedness of man throughout the world on a scale as never before in modern history. If they are coming to the fullness, the sons of God are also.

"Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" [Romans 8:30-32].

If God predestinated us, called us, justified us, and glorified us, what can we say about it? It is the work of God, not the flesh. I can do nothing without Christ, but through Christ, I can do all things!

I like those words, "Freely give us all things". Inheriting all things is one of the great promises Jesus made in Revelation chapters two and three. Not only will the overcomers inherit all things; they will also be privileged to sit with Christ in the Throne of Almighty God and will be granted power to rule the nations (See Revelation 2:26; 3:21; 21:7). Great things are certainly in store for God's chosen people!

"Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth" [Romans 8:33].

Brother, Sister, let me say without doubt, that nothing will stop God's purpose for you and I in these last days except ourselves. The devil might hinder you, he might

mess with your mind and your body, but he cannot touch your spirit man and he cannot stop the ordinance of God for your life. If you are God's child and sold out to Him, I guarantee you everything that happens in your life will work to your good. You are a winner because God has made you a winner. God has no losers! Just winners. God has no problems, only solutions! We will soon come into our inheritance in Christ. Thank God, for it is He that will freely give us all things.

I want you to start right now behaving yourself like a king. For Jesus is King of kings. We are priests of God, and we are kings! Our Father is God! We are the sons of God! We are heirs of the Throne of God, joint (equal) heirs of Jesus. Why? What did we do to deserve this? Nothing, absolutely nothing! God gave us the kingdom. It is our inheritance. We only believe!

Oh, I hope you see this, a person that is born into royalty doesn't do anything to deserve the throne, he was born to be a king. Thank God, we are born into the Royal Family of God. The tail is going to become the head, and the head the tail. The first shall be last, and the last first. Our inheritance is at hand. The fullness of time is at the door. It is the work of our Father. Stand still with me now, and let's see the salvation of our God. Sons of God, stand with me now by faith and let us behold our All Powerful Father destroy our enemies before us. We are sons of God and not servants. Hold on dear ones, God will not only fight our battles for us, He will win all of them for us! God's purpose will bring us into His Own likeness. He will do it! Submission is the key!

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" [James 4:7].