

Glen Park Gospel Church
Tuesday Evening Bible Study Group Notes

Rev Chris Trinham

Children of the King

No 2

Children of the Living God

Key Verse: *They shall be called children of the living God.* Romans 9.26.

This verse is a quotation from Hosea 2.23. Reading all of Hosea chapter one puts it in context. It is set in a dramatic prophetic demonstration of the faithlessness of Israel and the loving mercy of God. Note the statements in v6, '*I will no more have mercy upon the house of Israel*' (Hosea's people) and v9 '*You are not my people and I will not be your God*' compared with v7 '*But I will have mercy on the house of Judah*' their southern cousins. Looking still further on to when Israel and Judah will be reunited under one head and when it shall be declared, '*ye are the sons of the Living God*' v10.

Paul in Romans 9 clearly teaches that this momentous shift is due to a shift in the faith base of Israel, a remnant of '*whom He called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles*', those who by faith have been ransomed by the blood of Jesus and become His people, people from every tribe, tongue, people and nation. These are the Children of the Living God.

Consider First the Word Paul Uses.

'Children' is from the Greek word *huios*, indicating 'the relation of offspring to parent' (Vine). John chose to limit the word to describe the relationship of Jesus with God. John used another word *teknon* meaning child in other relationships such as John 1.12. Other New Testament writers use it to describe our relationship with God. Emphatically the word denotes relationship rather than a condition such as young, male or female, or the like. There are seven such Greek words giving these various shades of meaning.

Writers other than John use *huios* or son - child in other ways, for example: 'children of Israel,' Luke 1.16, 'Son of David' Matthew 21.9, 'children of this world' Luke 20.34, 'your children' Matthew 12.27, etc Each of these uses express

relationship, a relationship which is of a kind like a parent and child.

Consider Second Our Relationship as God's Children.

This relationship is unique. To belong to a family is a position that is limited to kinship. The children of this world can only look on with envy. We may eat at our Father's table and enjoy His provision, live in His home and enjoy His protection, sit by His fireside and enjoy His company. See Study No1. We can do these things because we have a right to be there. We are His children. We enjoy all the blessings of our Heavenly Father's love for His children.

Consider Next our Status as God's Children.

Notice in Romans 9.24-27 it is God who has called us His children. Not only are we called by the Gospel to

be His children but He has chosen us to be called His children. It is God who has called us His own. It is His choice. He wants us because He loves us. Imagine that! Even when we were guilty, rebellious sinners God loved us and sent His Son to die for us. And, now He calls us His.

Consider Then God's Objective for His Children.

God has a purpose for you in calling you to Himself, and you are very precious in His sight. You are important to Him. There is first a general purpose which God has for all His redeemed people. This is wonderful to consider. Meditate on it long until it thrills your heart through and through. It is revealed to us in Ephesians 2.6&7

God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 2.6&7 (NIV).

His eternal purpose is to show (The word 'show' means to 'display or demonstrate') His grace, His sheer goodness, all its surpassing richness (For 'incomparable' also read 'going beyond'). This is not God showing off, showing how good He is. It is God lavishing His love on His children eternally.

God also has a purpose for us in time.

That purpose is to give us a foretaste of what awaits us in glory. To do that He has raised us up in Christ and seated us in our place with His Son in heaven. While we are here physically, we are already spiritually enjoying the inheritance He has for us in heaven in Christ. But more than that:

Consider Last our Function as God's Children.

Part of God's purpose for us here in time is that He also has a particular purpose for each individual which unfolds as we walk day by day with Him seeking His will for our lives. This is told in:

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2.10

We read about God's purpose for Paul as a leader in Acts 9.15. He may call you to be another Paul, or His purpose for your life may not be as dramatic as all that, but it will be just as important. God's purpose is not just for time, it is brought to fulness with Him in eternity. God's purpose for you as an individual will use the gifts and abilities He has already given you, will express your personality, be satisfying, challenging, humbling, demanding and will be a blessing to other members of His family and at all times honour the holiness and purity of God's name. See also 2 Timothy 1.8-14.

Welcome

Glen Park Gospel Church

Lower Road, Eltham North

Sundays 10.30 am

These notes may be reproduced in part or in full when distributed without cost, if the words 'Used by Permission, Glen Park Gospel Church.' is included

Visit us at glenparkgospel.org.au