



"CONSIDERATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION"

Joel Greene, *Director of Physical Therapy, OU Medical Center*
Adoptive Father of Weston, Sophie and Tate Greene

INTRODUCTION: But God, eager to display the glory of His grace, intervened on our behalf... (Ephesians 1:4-6; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:4-10).

I. Thessalonian example – Paul's Prayer, 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

- A. Paul's thankfulness for Thessalonians
 - 1) Faith is growing (v. 3a).
 - 2) Increasing in love for all (v. 3b)
 - 3) Faithful/steadfast in all your persecutions/afflictions (v. 4)
- B. The end in mind (vv. 5-10)
- C. Worthy of your calling (v. 11a)
- D. Miraculous desires for goodness (v. 11b)
- E. So that...the Lord may be glorified in you AND you in Him

II. The Analogy

"The New Testament builds on the blessing of human adoption by using it as an analogy to describe God's fatherly love for us." John MacArthur

- A. We are spiritual orphans under the cruel oppression of sin and Satan.
 - 1) Children of the devil (John 8:44)
 - 2) By nature, we are children of wrath (Ephesians 2:3).
 - 3) Our only home was this sin-cursed world that is fast passing away (1 John 2:17).
 - 4) Guardian was the avowed enemy of our soul (1 Peter 5:8).
 - 5) Only future was the terrifying expectation of hell's judgment (Hebrews 10:27).

B. We become children of God with blessing.

- 1) We should be called children of God (John 1:12; Galatians 3:26).
- 2) We have a home not of this world (Philippians 3:20).
- 3) Abba Father (Galatians 4:6-7)
- 4) We are loved (John 3:16 - For God so loved the world).

C. Why foreign adoption

- 1) Matthew 28:18-19, Because we have a command to go to the world
- 2) Psalm 22:27
- 3) Psalm 117:1