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A New Testament

A Testament is a Will; the legal method by which a person determines the disposition of their property after their death. Concerning the Testament of Jesus Christ, Paul writes: "For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth." (Heb 9:16-17)

Adam – Son of God

Adam was created by God, that made him a son of God.

Genesis 1:27 – ²⁷ So **God created man** in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 2:7 – ⁷ And **the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground**, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

The Angels - Son's of God

The Angels were also created by God and are therefore, son's of God.

Job 38:4-7 – ⁴ Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. ⁵ Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? ⁶ Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; ⁷ When the morning stars sang together, and **all the sons of God shouted for joy?**

Jesus – Son of God

Jesus had a heavenly Father and an earthly mother. Therefore, Jesus was both a son of God and a son of man.

Matthew 1:18 – ¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

Mark 1:1 – ¹ The beginning of the gospel of **Jesus Christ, the Son of God;**

The Adopted Son's of God

Under the laws of the United States and most countries, the natural born sons and daughters have legal right to the estate of their father after his death if there is no Will. We are not natural heirs; we are adopted.

Galatians 4:4-5 – ⁴ But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a

woman, made under the law, ⁵ To redeem them that were under the law, **that we might receive the adoption of sons.**

Ephesians 1:4-5 – ⁴ According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: ⁵ **Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children** by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

Romans 8:22 – ²³ And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, **waiting for the adoption**, to wit, the redemption of our body.

The New Testament Made Possible By Jesus' Blood

Matthew 26:28 – ²⁸ For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Mark 14:24 – ²⁴ And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many.

The Gift

Concerning the will that Jesus left, the Apostle Paul writes: “And for this cause he [Jesus] is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.” (Heb 9:15) The most important thing that Jesus left to us in his Will is his perfect character; this is the means by which we obtain eternal life. When we are judged, God sees the sinless character of Jesus Christ rather than our own sinful character.

The property left to the heirs is a free gift from the person who has died. They did not earn it. Typically a person leaves property to their blood relatives but nothing requires them to do this. Sometimes conditions are set that must be met by the heir before they receive their inheritance. These conditions do not change the fact that it is a free gift.

Jesus has given us a free gift of eternal life but there are certain conditions that must be met. These are contained throughout the New Testament. We have been studying these conditions of eternal salvation which few follow. Jesus said: “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” (Mt 7:13-14)

Who Are God's Adopted Heirs

Romans 8:13-17 – ¹³ For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. ¹⁴ For **as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.** 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. ¹⁶ The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: ¹⁷ And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Matthew 12:5 – ⁴⁸ But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? ⁴⁹ And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! ⁵⁰ For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

God's Heirs Love Him

James 2:5 – Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

Jesus Is God

John 10:30 – ³⁰ I and my Father are one.

John 14:9-11 – ⁹ Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? ¹⁰ Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

Whoever Loves Jesus Keeps His Commandments

John 14:15 – If ye love me, **keep my commandments.**

John 15:10 – ¹⁰ **If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love;** even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

You Cannot Be An Heir Through Works But Only By Faith

Romans 4:13-16 – ¹³ For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For **if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:** ¹⁵ Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression. ¹⁶ Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

Summary

A Testament is a legal instrument by which a person sets forth who the heirs of their property will be after their death. Further, a Testament can contain conditions by which individuals can become

heirs and also conditions by which they can be excluded as heirs. This is exactly what we find in the New Testament of the Bible.

God has predestined all of us to be heirs through adoption by Christ Jesus. But while God has predestined all of us, He has also given us free will to make our own choice. We can choose to accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour or we can reject Him. The choice is ours. When we accept Jesus Christ as our Saviour, we become adopted sons and daughters of God.

But when we accept Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, we cannot stop there. The New Testament of Jesus Christ contains many conditions that we must accept as adopted sons and daughters. Chief among these are that we must love God and if we love Him, we must keep His commandments.

While we are required to meet these conditions, we must never forget that we are saved by faith, it is a free gift. We are not able to meet any of God's conditions on our own. We can only make the choice. It is only possible through the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. Even with the Holy Spirit we fail. And it is the blood of Jesus Christ that purifies us and gives us the perfect sinless character of Jesus Christ.