

Revelation 22:1-5

The Eternal Privileges of Heavenly Citizenship: His Name Shall Be on Our Forehead

INTRO: What makes “adoption” such a wonderful blessing?

Heavenly Membership Has its Eternal Privileges:

1) As Royal Priests We Shall Serve Our Sovereign God with Joy and Gladness

(Revelation 22:3b; 7:9-17; note sermon from 3/3/18)

2) As Glorified Saints We Shall See the LORD in All His Glory.

(Revelation 22:4a; Ex. 33:20; 1 Cor. 13:12)

3) _____

(Revelation 22:4b; Psalm 16:11; 73:28)

We need to Interpret and Apply Rev. 22:4b in view of its broader (canonical) context:

A) Creation-the Very Good Beginning; (Gen. 1-2).

B) Fall- the forfeiture of many blessings and privileges; (Gen. 3; Col. 1:21-23).

C) God's Rescue Plan- the work of Christ; (Eph. 1:3-14; 1 Pet. 1:17-21).

Illustrating the wonder, joy, and blessing of Revelation 22:4b



D) Future Glory (Rev. 22:4b)

For Further Reflection/Application: *Are you coming under the ministry of the Word of God?*

What makes “adoption” such a wonderful blessing? In what ways does the best of earthly adoptions parallel God’s adoption of us in Christ? (Read Eph. 1:3-6; Rom. 8:15; Heb. 2:10)

Heavenly *membership* has its eternal *privileges*. “The Heavenly Father loves His adopted children so much, and understands our struggles so well, that He actually incentives godliness and Christian perseverance with spiritual blessings, heavenly promises, and eternal rewards.” What is your reaction to this?

Recap: The first eternal privilege of heavenly citizenship is as follows: “As Royal Priests We Shall Service Our Sovereign God with Joy and Gladness;” (Rev. 22:3-see sermon notes from 3/3/19). Have you found yourself serving Christ and others with a little extra ‘pep in your step’ after the biblical reminder from Revelation 22?

Recap: The second eternal privilege of heavenly citizenship- “As Glorified Saints We Shall See the LORD in ALL of His Glory.” Revelation 22:4a; Ex. 33:20; 1 Cor. 13:12; 1 Jn. 3:2; Matt. 5:8 The song, “When We See Your Face” highlights many of the practical implications that are connected to this blessed reality/future promise; (see sermon notes from 3/10/19).

The third eternal privilege of heavenly citizenship- “As Adopted Children We Will Experience the Father’s Father in Spiritually Intimate Ways.” Read Revelation 22:4b; Psalm 16:11; Psalm 73:28; and Galatians 4:8-9a. Is knowing the Lord and being known by the Lord one of the greatest delights in your life? How do you know if this is so (or not)? See the lyrics from the song, “Knowing You, Jesus” or “I Am His, And He is Mine” and make this your prayer.

Do you agree with the following statement from this morning’s sermon? Explain why. “If you view God as a cosmic kill joy, a bullying buzzkill, and/or a domineering dictator you have yet to meet the God of the Bible.” How can Christians help unbelievers have a more positive and biblical view of who God is (without denying His holiness/wrath/justice)?

How does understanding the big picture (the larger “metanarrative”) help one to better appreciate this third eternal privilege?

In what sense did sin “erase God’s name” from our forehead (Colossians 1:21-23; Genesis 3)?

How does the death of Christ, and the things He endured at Calvary, relate to this morning’s sermon?

How does the illustration of Andy and his beloved toy Woody help us to appreciate the wonder, joy, and blessing of Revelation 22:4b? (God will call us His own for all eternity).

“If you keep these privileges in the forefront of you mind, they will help you to live a meaningful life and to die well” (Phil. 1:21). Explain how this is so?

If we could learn and embrace in faith all that Revelation 21-22 says about the glories of heaven how would it impact our daily lives as Christians? How has this series on the eternal privileges of heavenly citizenship (and the glories of heaven) impacted your Christian walk thus far?

Related Praise Songs: *Theology fuels Doxology! We dig deeply in God's Word in order that we may go high in praise and adoration!*

I Will Glory in My Redeemer- Together for the Gospel Live

I Am His, and He Is Mine- Hymn

In Christ Alone- Keith and Kristyn Getty

Lamb of God- Sovereign Grace Music

When We See Your Face- "Prayers of the Saints," Sovereign Grace Music

Come, Lord Jesus- "Prayers of the Saints," Sovereign Grace Music

Knowing You, Jesus- Graham Kendrick

I Will Glory in My Redeemer- Steve and Vikki Cook

Living Waters- Keith and Kristyn Getty

One Day (When We All Get to Heaven)- Matt Redman

O That Will Be Glory- Hymn

Soon and Very Soon- Hymn

We Shall See His Face- Hymn, Ernest Wesley

How Sweet the Day

Related Scripture Passages: *Search the Scriptures to see if these things be so.*

Revelation 22:1-6; Revelation 2-3; 21:7; Genesis 1-3; Psalm 16:11; 73:28; Romans 8:28-39; Galatians 4:8-9a; Ephesians 2:1-10; Philippians 1:21; Colossians 1:21-23; 1 Peter 1:17-21

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I AM HIS, AND HE IS MINE

*"I Loved with everlasting love, drawn by grace that love to know,
Gracious Spirit from Christ above/ Thou has taught me it is so!
O this full and precious peace/ O, this transport all Divine!
in a love which cannot cease/ **I am his and he is mine.***

*3 Taste the goodness of the Lord/welcomed home to his embrace,
all his love, as blood outpoured/ seals the pardon of his grace.
Can I doubt his love for me/ when I trace that love's design?
By the cross of Calvary/ **I am his and he is mine.***

*4 His forever, only His / who the Lord and me shall part?
Ah, with what a rest of bliss/ Christ can fill the loving heart.
Heav'n and earth may fade and flee,/ firstborn light in gloom decline,
but while God and I shall be/ **I am his and he is mine."***