

I AM A CHILD OF THE KING, ARE YOU?

Nicodemus, a Pharisee and leader among the Jews, came to see YAHSHUA at night. He complimented YAHSHUA saying, "Rabbi, we know and are certain that You have come from God [as] a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him" (John 3: 1-2). YAHSHUA then took the opportunity and said, "I assure you most solemnly I tell you, that unless a person is born again (anew from above), he cannot ever see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus, in his carnal mind could not understand the spiritual birth and asked, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter his mother's womb again and be born?" YAHSHUA continued, "I assure you most solemnly I tell you, unless a man is born of **water and the Spirit** he cannot enter the kingdom of God. What is born of flesh is flesh and what is born of the Spirit is spirit." (John 3:3-6). It is the Spirit that sustains us keeping us from falling away. YAHSHUA hours before His trials and death warned the disciples saying, "Watch and pray so that you will not enter into temptation" (Matt. 26:41). As a father to His children, YAHSHUA guides us into righteousness through His Holy Spirit. He is the Comforter, (Helper, Advocate Intercessor, Strengtheners). "When He comes, Whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth Who comes from the Father, He will testify regarding Me" (John 15:26).

How can you know that you are a child of the King? First of all, you must bear fruit that shows your love for Him; by dwelling in Him and bearing fruit. YAHSHUA said, "I Am the True vine, and My Father is the Vinedresser; any branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He cuts away and He cleanses and repeatedly prunes every branch that continues to bear fruit, to make it bear more richer and more excellent fruit" (John 15:1-2). In the letter to the church in Ephesus, Paul said, "May blessing be to the God and Father of our Lord YAHSHUA the Messiah, Who blessed us in Messiah with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realm: He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world that we should be holy, and blameless in His sight He adopted us as His own; He planned to adopt us as His own children through YAHSHUA Messiah to the praise and the commendation of His glorious grace; in Him we have redemption through His blood, the remission of our offenses, in accordance with the riches and the generosity of His gracious favor, which He lavished upon us in every kind of wisdom and understanding, making known to us the mystery of His will... in Him we were made heritage; we were stamped with the seal of the long-promised Holy Spirit; He is the guarantee of our inheritance, in anticipation of its full redemption and our acquiring [complete] possession of it to the praise of His glory (Eph. 1).

Do you know if you are a child of the King? Does the Holy Spirit testify with your spirit that you are His child? Do you realize how hard He travailed to give you eternal life? Isaiah 53:11 says: "He (YAHSHUA) shall see [the fruit] of the travail of His soul and be satisfied; by His knowledge of Himself shall my righteous One, My Servant, justify many and make many righteous, for He shall bear their iniquities, says the Lord." We were born not from the will of men, but of God-Spirit and Water- sanctification and His indwelling in us. Been born of the Holy Spirit, gives us the privilege and the right to be called children of God. John 1:12-13 says, "...But to many as did receive and welcome Him, He gave the authority to become the children of God, that is, to those who believe in His name, who owe their birth neither to bloods nor to the will of the

flesh, nor to the will of man, but to God. [They are born of God!]. Even when we were dead by our own shortcomings and trespasses, He made us alive together in fellowship and in union with Christ, for it is by grace that you are saved; and He raised us up together with Him and made us sit down together in the heavenly sphere [by virtue of our being] in Christ YAHSHUA" (Eph. 2:5-6).

It is not by virtue of our own doing that we became a child of the King, but by His grace. We will be one in Him. In His priestly prayer He said, "I in them and You in Me that they may become perfectly one; they are not of the world, as I am not of the world" (John 17:23,16). The child of the King has been promised a place in heaven in John 14:1-3: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in and adhere to and trust in and rely in also in Me. In My Father's house there are many dwelling places (homes). If it were not so, I would have told you; for I am going to prepare a place for you. And when I go and make ready a place for you, I will come back again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also." Therefore, Paul says, "[There is] now no condemnation for those who are in Christ YAHSHUA, who live [and] walk not after the dictates of the flesh, but after the dictates of the Spirit" (Rom. 8:1).

There is much for a child of the King to celebrate in this world of troubles and sin. We have a promise to live by as we carry our cross to sanctification. Let's then "strip off and throw aside every encumbrance and that sin which so readily clings to and entangles us, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us; looking away to YAHSHUA, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith and is also its Finisher. He, for the joy [of obtaining the prize] that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising and ignoring the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God" (Heb. 12:1-2). We are called to suffer persecution for His name. He said, "If they persecute Me, they will also persecute you." Paul confirms it saying, "Indeed, all who desire to live godly lives in Christ Jesus will be persecuted" (2 Timothy 3:12). The child of the King is called to suffer for Him, not to embrace the world's riches. Paul said, "But whatever former things I had that might have been gains to me, I have come to consider as loss for Christ's sake; Yes, furthermore, I count everything as loss compared to the possession of the priceless privilege overwhelming preciousness, the surpassing worth, and supreme advantage of knowing Christ YAHSHUA my Lord...[For my determined purpose is] that I may know Him and that I may in that same way come to know the power outflowing from His resurrection, and that I may so share his sufferings as to be continually transformed [in spirit into His likeness..." (Phil. 3).

Here is a song for you by the Gathers:

Child of the King

Once I was clothed in the rags of my sin,
Wretched and poor, lost and lonely within.
But with wondrous compassion, the King of all kings,
In pity and love, took me under His wings.
Oh, yes, oh yes, I'm a child of the King

His royal blood now flows in my veins.
And I who was wretched and poor now can sing
Praise God, praise God, I'm a child of the King.
Now I'm a child with a Heavenly home,
My Holy Father well he's made me His own.
And I'm washed by His blood, and I'm clothed in His love,
And someday I'll sing with the angels above.

God, our Father invites you to become his child today and enjoy the joy of His peace and the certainty of your home in heaven with Him.