Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Romans 8:1-17
- II Timothy 1:7
- Psalms 68:4-6

Title:

HAND-PICKED ORPHANS

- Optional Condemnation
- Orphan Spirit or Spirit of God
- Hand-Picked by God

SEED:

"There is therefore now **no condemnation** to those who are in Christ Jesus, who **do not walk** according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit." Romans 8:1 NKJV

"For God has not given us a **spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.**" II Timothy 1:7 NKJV

FRUIT:

"For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."" Romans 8:15 NKJV

"...Extol Him ...By His name Yah, And rejoice before Him. A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation." Psalms 68:4-5 NKJV

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S MESSAGE:

Everyone wants to be part of a family. In fact, God created the human family as the perfect representation of the Divine family. Quite literally, the human family is the image of God in the earth. Yet, in practice, in this fallen world, family dynamics don't always play out as planned. As humanity careens towards the end-of-days, the assault on the family has intensified. It makes sense when you think about it; God's plan is for the family to represent His image in the earth. And the enemy's chief strategy is to ruin that image—hence the wholesale destruction of the family unit and family values.

There is an epidemic of un-parented and under-parented children in the world, but none of it surprises God. Satan's assault on the family runs deep, destroying marriage and even the desire for marriage; gender and even the idea of gender; and children and even the birth of children. Again, no surprise to God. From the beginning God had a plan; He is the Father to the fatherless! And He institutes His plan by way of adoption. The magnificence of adoption is that it negates the need to be born of a certain bloodline to be considered a child of God. Your born-again encounter served as the legal paperwork for your adoption; human orphans are hand-picked and invited into the family of God. It is the perfect demonstration of God's furious and astonishing love. And, our capacity to love God comes only because He first loved us.

And finally something else emerges which staggers the mind. You were not just adopted by God as His child, which makes you an heir to His kingdom; you became a joint heir with Christ. Your inheritance in God is an equal inheritance as promised to His only begotten Son! And that means God has placed you in the firstborn position along with Y'shua. That is who you really are! So, the next time you feel like an orphan, alone and unwanted, meditate on this utterly beautiful thought. Adoption is a choice which requires a selection process, and God searched the pool of orphans in which you were swimming and He chose you!

OPTIONAL CONDEMNATION

1. By Flesh or By Spirit

A. Condemnation is up to you!

- (1) Your Walk Matters
 - (a) The quintessential safety net...
 - 1. "There is therefore now **no condemnation** to those who are in Christ Jesus, who **do not** walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit." Romans 8:1 NKJV
 - 2. "He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us." Psalms 103:10-12 NKJV
 - 3. Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. **But where sin abounded,** grace abounded much more," Romans 5:20 NKJV
 - 4. "Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. For <u>I acknowledge my transgressions</u>, And my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight— That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge." Psalms 51:1-4 NKJV
 - 5. "Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You." Psalms 51:9-13 NKJV
 - 6. "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, **A broken and a contrite heart** These, O God, You will not despise." Psalms 51:17 NKJV
 - 7. "For <u>it is impossible</u> for those who were **once enlightened**, and have **tasted the heavenly gift**, and have **become partakers of the Holy Spirit**, and have tasted the good
 word of God and the powers of the age to come, **if they fall away**, **to renew them again**

- **to repentance**, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame." Hebrews 6:4-6 NKJV
- 8. "For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?" Hebrews 10:26-29 NKJV
- 9. "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;" Romans 1:28 NKJV
- 10. "Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God." I John 3:4-9 NKJV
- 11. what I will not to do, **it is no longer I** who do it, but sin that dwells in me." Romans 7:17, 20 NKJV
- (2) Two Sets of Laws
 - (a) Another way of describing the two sets of laws...
 - 1. "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:2 NKJV
- (3) A groundbreaking theological premise...
 - (a) God's law codified on Mount Sinai could never produce righteous subjects.
 - 1. "For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit." Romans 8:3-4 NKJV
 - 2. "Now we know that whatever **the law says**, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, **and all the world may become guilty before God.**Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, **for by the law is the knowledge of sin."** Romans 3:19-20 NKJV

- 3. "I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death." Romans 7:9-10 NKJV
- 4. "For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. **Because finding fault with them**..." Hebrews 8:7-8 NKJV
- 5. "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men." Philippians 2:5-7 NKJV
- 6. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."" John 3:16-21 NKJV
- 7. "But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe..." Romans 3:21-22 NKJV
- 8. "Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:" II Peter 1:1 NKJV
- 9. "For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end [goal] of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes." Romans 10:3-4 NKJV
- 10. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." Galatians 5:22-25 NKJV
- 11. "To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory.** Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, **that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.** To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily." Colossians 1:27-29 NKJV

- 12. "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."" Galatians 2:20-21 NKJV
- 13. ""Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

 This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."" Matthew 22:36-40 NKJV
- 14. "that the **righteous requirement of the law** might be **fulfilled** in us who do not **walk** according to the flesh but **according to the Spirit.**" Romans 8:4 NKJV
- (4) What has your attention?
 - (a) Fleshly Things or Spiritual Things?
 - "For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit." Romans 8:5 NKJV
 - 2. "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he." Proverbs 23:7a NKJV
 - 3. "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the **thoughts and intents of the heart.**" Hebrews 4:12 NKJV
 - 4. "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For **out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.**" Luke 6:45 NKJV
 - 5. **things are naked and open** to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. "Hebrews 4:13 NKJV
 - 6. "For **nothing is secret that will not be revealed**, nor anything hidden that will not be known and come to light." Luke 8:17 NKJV
 - 7. "Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand." Philippians 4:5 NKJV
 - 8. "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good..." Luke 6:45 NKJV
 - 9. "Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit." Matthew 7:17 NKJV
 - 10. "No one, when he has lit a lamp, covers it with a vessel or puts it under a bed, but sets it on a lampstand, that those who enter may see the light." Luke 8:16 NKJV
 - 11. "With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You. Blessed are You, O Lord! **Teach me Your statutes**. **With my lips I have declared** All the judgments of Your mouth." Psalms 119:10-13 NKJV
- (5) The Mind

- (a) Carnal vs. Spiritual
 - "For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.
 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God." Romans 8:6-8 NKJV
 - 2. False Prophets: "They continually say to those who despise Me, 'The Lord has said, "You shall have peace" '; And to everyone who walks according to the dictates of his own heart, they say, 'No evil shall come upon you.' "" Jeremiah 23:17 NKJV
 - 3. "and so it may not happen, when he hears the words of this curse, that he blesses himself in his heart, saying, 'I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of my heart'—as though the drunkard could be included with the sober." Deuteronomy 29:19 NKIV
 - 4. "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed." John 3:19-20 NKJV
 - 5. "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

 "Hebrews 11:6 NKJV
 - 6. "But **the Lord is faithful**, who will **establish you** and **guard you** from the evil one." II Thessalonians 3:3 NKJV
 - 7. "Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4:5-9 NKJV
 - 8. "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him." I John 5:14-15 NKJV

ORPHAN SPIRIT OR SPIRIT OF GOD

- 2. According to the Flesh or according to the Spirit?
 - A. How are you living?

- (1) Does the Spirit of God dwell in you?
 - (a) The body is dead because of sin; The Spirit is life!
 - 1. "But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness." Romans 8:9-10 NKIV
 - 2. "But you have not so learned Christ, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness." Ephesians 4:20-24 NKJV
 - 3. "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of **the only begotten** of the Father, full of **grace and truth**." John 1:14 NKJV
 - 4. "For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in **doing the will of the Gentiles**—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries." I Peter 4:3 NKJV
- (2) Does the Spirit of God dwell in you?
 - (a) You know the answer.
 - "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you." Romans 8:11 NKJV
 - 2. "and what is the exceeding greatness of **His power toward us who believe**, according to the working of His mighty power **which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places," Ephesians 1:19-20
 - 3. "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2 NKJV
 - 4. "For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come." I Timothy 4:8 NKJV
- (3) We should feel an overwhelming debt of gratitude!
 - (a) We owe it to God to live for God!
 - "Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh."
 Romans 8:12 NKJV
- (4) A Hebrew Bondservant: A Voluntary Slavery (See: Slavery)
 - (a) Y'shua came as a bondservant.
 - 1. "If you buy a **Hebrew servant**, he shall serve six years; and in the seventh **he shall go out free** and pay nothing. If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself; if he

- comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him. If his master has given him a wife, and she has borne him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out by himself. But if the servant plainly says, 'I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,' then his master shall bring him to the judges. He shall also bring him to the door, or to the doorpost, and his master shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he shall serve him forever." Exodus 21:2-6
- 2. "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross." Philippians 2:5-8 NKJV
- 3. "And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground." Luke 22:41-44 NKJV
- 4. "But Jesus said to him, "Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?"" Matthew 26:52-54 NKJV
- 5. "And the high priest arose and said to Him, "Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?" But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!" Jesus said to him, "It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven."" Matthew 26:62-64 NKIV
- 6. "Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.' "" (Matthew 27:41-43) "Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." And they divided His garments and cast lots. Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us." And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."" Luke 23:34, 39, 43
- 7. "And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit." Matthew 27:50
- 8. "So also is **the resurrection of the dead**. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in **incorruption**. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in **glory**. It is sown in weakness, it is

raised in **power**. It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man." I Corinthians 15:42-49 NKJV

- (5) Your life reflects your choice!
 - (a) Live for the flesh or for the Spirit...
 - "For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live." Romans 8:13 NKJV
 - 2. "For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it." Matthew 16:25 NKIV

HAND-PICKED BY GOD

3. Sons of God

A. Legal Adoption

- (1) That Selection Process (He did it all FOR YOU!)
 - (a) Pool of Orphans
 - 1. "For as many as are **led by the Spirit** of God, these are **sons of God.**" Romans 8:14
 - 2. "For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons." Hebrews 12:6-8 NKJV
 - 3. "to the general assembly **and church of the firstborn** who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect," Hebrews 12:23 NKJV
 - 4. "For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren." Romans 8:29 NKJV
 - 5. "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1:12-13 NKJV
 - 6. "For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God." Romans 8:19 NKJV
- (2) The Spirit of Adoption
 - (a) From Orphan Spirit to Child of God

- 1. "For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."" Romans 8:15 NKJV
- 2. "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit..." Romans 8:16
- 3. "For God has not given us a **spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.**" Il Timothy 1:7 NKJV
- 4. "Sing to God, sing praises to His name; Extol Him who rides on the clouds, By His name Yah, And rejoice before Him. A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation. God sets the solitary in families [finds a home for those who are alone]; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity; But the rebellious dwell in a dry land." Psalms 68:4-6 NKJV
- 5. "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you." John 15:16 NKJV
- 6. ""You will say then, "Branches [Israel] were broken off that I [Gentile] might be grafted in." And they also, if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them [Israel] in again." Romans 11:19, 23 NKJV

(3) Join Heirs

- (a) What is your ultimate inheritance?
 - 1. "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together." Romans 8:16-17 NKJV
 - 2. "For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons." Hebrews 12:6-8 NKJV
 - 3. "For **if we have been united together in the likeness of His death**, certainly we also shall be in **the likeness of His resurrection**, **knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him**, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin." Romans 6:5-6 NKJV
 - 4. "For I consider that **the sufferings of this present** time are not worthy to be compared with **the glory which shall be revealed in us."** Romans 8:18 NKJV