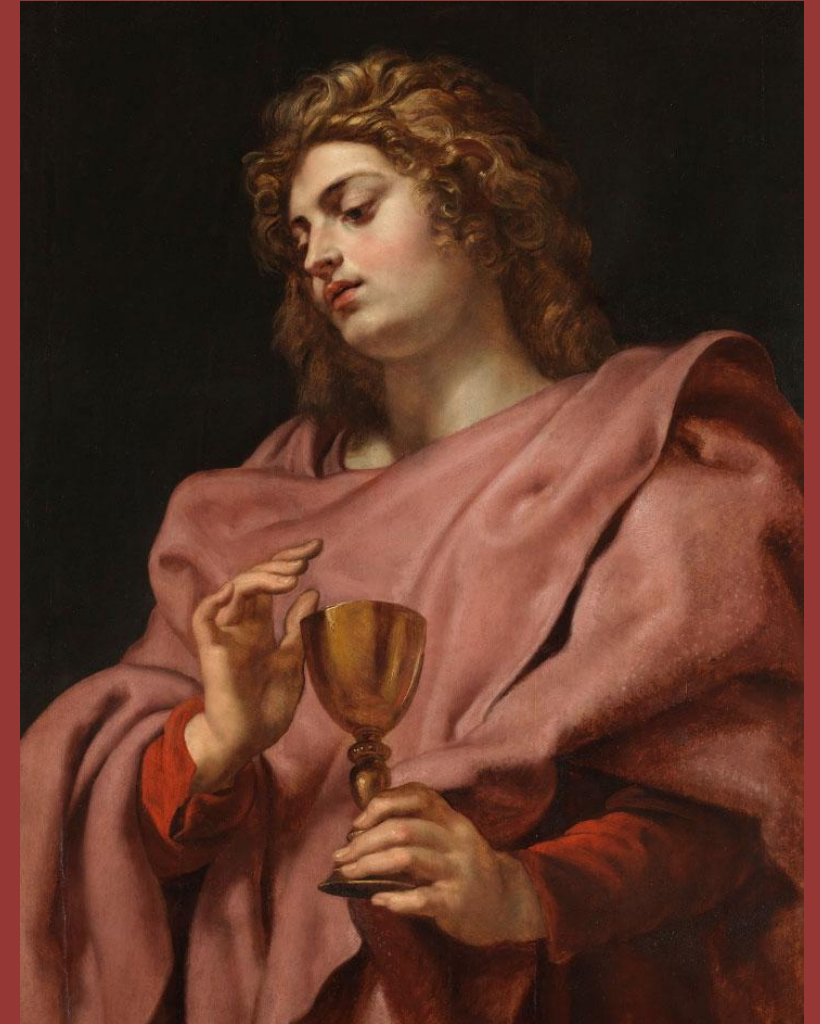




1 John 3:1-3

What love from the Father! We
are God's children.
We shall see God as He is.

- ¹ See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him.**
- ² Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.**
- ³ Everyone who has this hope based on Him makes himself pure, as He is pure.**



We are Children of God

To better understand these verses let's turn to the Book of Romans chapter 8:

☐14☐ ☐ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

☐15☐ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "Abba, ☐ Father!"

☐16☐ The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

☐17☐ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

**Verse 15 “you received the spirit of adoption, through which we cry,
“Abba, ʔFather!”**

The word “Abba” is Aramaic for “Papa, or Daddy.”

**It is a term that expresses warm affection and a family confidence
such as a child has for their biological father.**

When a person is adopted it is a matter of choice not chance.



Among the Greeks and Romans, when a man had no son, he was permitted to adopt one even though they were not related.

He might, if he chose, adopt one of his slaves as his son.

The adopted son took the name of the father, and was in every respect treated as his son.





Among the Romans there were two parts to the act of adoption: one a private arrangement between the parties, and the other a formal public declaration of the adoption.

At some point in your life you privately decided to become a genuine Christian.

From the Gospel of John chapter 1 verse 12 we read: 12 But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name,

Each Sunday you stand in Church and say the Nicene Creed which is your *formal public declaration of adoption*.

Yes, He adopted you and you accepted Him as your Father and took the family name, Christian.

