

Two Birthdays

Description

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Ephesians 2:11-22

A young boy, about seven years old, once told me it was his second birthday and promptly invited me to his party. His parents were dear friends of mine, so I asked them to confirm the child's second birthday. With a smile and short laughter, they explained that he indeed had a "birthday," and since he was adopted, he also had a "Got-you birthday," the day he was born into the family. They celebrated both birthdays and made them equally important.

That concept warmed my heart, and he was excited about being a part of his family; he was loved. That is exactly the way we feel when we celebrate our adoption into God's family. The scriptures tell us, "see what great love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God!" (1 John 3:1a). The word "lavish" is a beautiful notion. It means a great quantity, to lovingly spoil, or the outpouring of oneself. God loved us that much that He adopted us.

Being called children of God is being a part of His family. That is a unique expression of love—two birthdays.

Author: Samuel Simoes

Date Created

2021/05/28