Coming Near to God, the Holy One – Romans 8:14-17
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If the holiness of God means that there is ineffable distance between the Creator and His creatures, then it is impossible to conceive of unholy sinners ever coming near Him. Yet, because of salvation through Christ, those who believe in Him have been brought near to God. This wonderful new relationship we share with God is presented in the New Testament as "adoption" into God's family and it is to be considered *the highest blessing of our salvation for at least three reasons:*

1. Because of the *impossibility* of the sinner's having a close relationship with God.

2. Because of the *quality* of the close relationship the believer shares with God through Christ.

3. Because of the *blessings* of the close relationship the believer shares with God through Christ.

   A. The blessing of fellowship. *Abba, Father!* (15)

   B. The blessing of assurance. *The Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God* (16).

   C. The blessing of an inheritance. *...if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ* (17).