

What's God up to this year?

God's plan for this year, next year and every year that human beings exist

I wonder what New Year's resolutions God made this year. I gather they don't include resolving the Middle East conflict, putting an end to suffering, or coming back to Earth to straighten out the mess we've created, so what's he up to instead?

What he's always been up to, I imagine, as stated in **Ephesians 1:4-5**, "For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will."

God's adopting us into his family. It's what he planned before he put the wheels of our creation into motion, and it's been his plan ever since. Every year, then, God has the same resolution, to adopt more humans as his very own sons and daughters, for the purpose of "blessing us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing (**verse 3**)."

He wants to share with his beloved humans everything he has and is.

It's why he sent Jesus. "But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law that we might receive the full rights of sons (**Galatians 4:4-5**)."

This was the plan, that Christ would come to this Earth to free up our inheritance as God's sons. Before Christ came, God had our inheritance stored away for us, but we couldn't touch it yet, as Paul explains in **verses 1-3**. But with Christ's death on the cross the "time had fully come" when the Father's Will could at last be read out. And in that Will it states clearly that we humans have the full right as God's sons to every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms. All that God has and is, is ours. We are heirs to every bit of it.

To help us grasp that, God sent a wonderful gift with Jesus for us. "Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father' (**verse 6**)."

The Spirit would totally change our relationship with God. Suddenly, we'd see God as our Father. He's been our Father all along, but there comes a time when we see it. That's the Spirit's doing. "The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children (**Romans 8:16**)."

And "if we are children, then we are heirs - heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ (**verse 17**)."

We are the sons of God, and as his sons, we are the rightful heirs to his fortune. We don't have to earn it, work

for it or beg for it. It's all ours simply because we are God's children, and we always have been.

Some people are in for a shock this year, then, when they discover that God is, in fact, their Father, that it's possible to have a relationship with God like a son does with his Dad, and that they're heirs to all that God has and is simply because he adores them. I'd love to see their faces when they find out.