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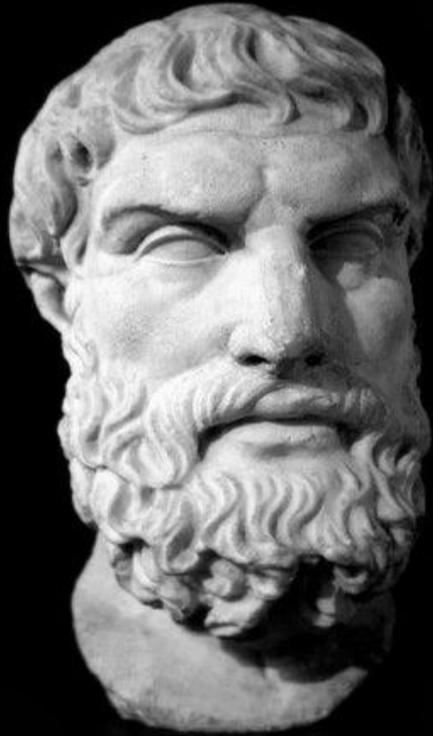
If God is in Control: why does all this bad stuff happen?

Jesus gives all believer the Holy Spirit

John 14:15-31



Popular philosophy in John's time



Is God willing to prevent evil, but not able?
Then he is not omnipotent.
Is he able, but not willing?
Then he is malevolent.
Is he both able and willing?
Then whence cometh evil?
Is he neither able nor willing?
Then why call him God?

- Epicurus

"IF GOD IS ALL POWERFUL, HE CANNOT BE ALL GOOD,

IF HE'S ALL GOOD THEN HE CANNOT BE ALL POWERFUL"
- LEX LUTHOR

John 14:15 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,

14:17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

Paraclete = Helper

All that Scripture tells us about the Holy Spirit is regarded by earthly men as a dream; because, trusting to their own reason, they despise heavenly illumination. Now, though this pride abounds everywhere, which extinguishes, so far as lies in our power, the light of the Holy Spirit; yet, conscious of our own poverty, we ought to know, that whatever belongs to sound understanding proceeds from no other source. Yet Christ's words show that nothing which relates to the Holy Spirit can be learned by human reason, but that He is known only by the experience of faith.

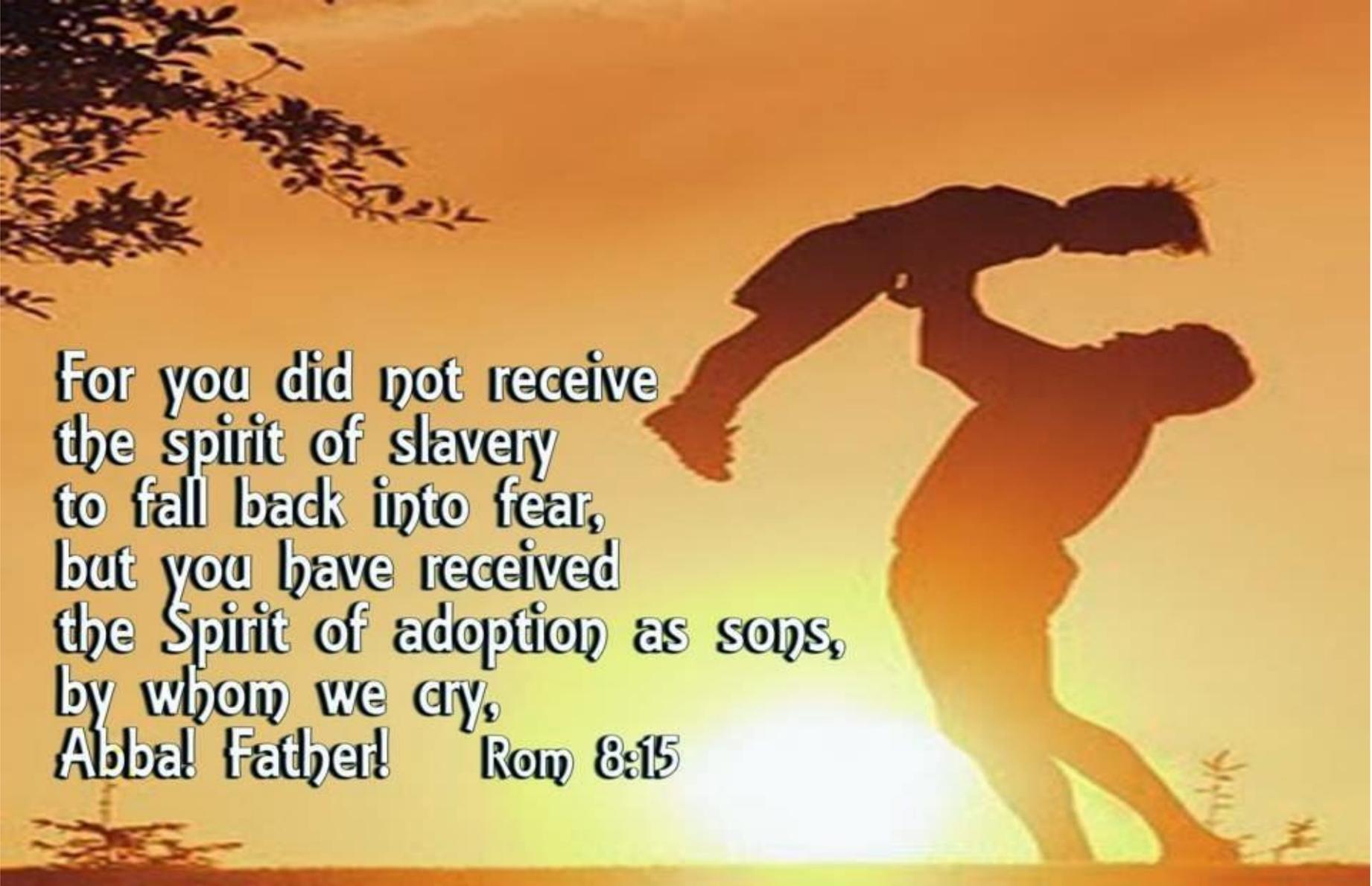
Calvin

14:18 “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

14:19 Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

14:20 In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

14:21 Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

A silhouette of a man carrying a child on his shoulders against a sunset background. The man is on the right, leaning forward, and the child is on his shoulders, facing right. The background is a warm orange and yellow gradient, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. There are some dark, leafy branches in the upper left and lower right corners.

For you did not receive
the spirit of slavery
to fall back into fear,
but you have received
the Spirit of adoption as sons,
by whom we cry,
Abba! Father! Rom 8:15

14:22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?”

14:23 Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

14:24 Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

14:25 “These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you.

14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

14:27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

A word from John Cannan

14:28 You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

14:29 And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe.

14:30 I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me,

14:31 but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.