

# 2 Corinthians 6:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

## Analysis

**And will be a Father unto you** (καὶ ἔσομαι ὑμῖν εἰς πατέρα, kai esomai hymin eis patera)—Patēr (father) represents the most intimate covenant relationship. God promises not merely to be sovereign Lord or distant Creator but tender Father. This fulfills messianic promises (2 Sam 7:14; Isa 43:6) and anticipates Jesus's teaching on the fatherhood of God (Matt 6:9; John 20:17). The future tense indicates the ongoing reality of this relationship for those who obey the call to separation.

**And ye shall be my sons and daughters** (καὶ ὑμεῖς ἔσεσθε μοι εἰς υἱοὺς καὶ θυγατέρας, kai hymeis esesthe moi eis huious kai thygateras)—Huios (sons) and thygatēr (daughters) emphasizes the full inclusion of both genders in God's family—unusual in ancient patriarchal cultures that often emphasized sons exclusively. This equality recalls Galatians 3:28: in Christ there is neither male nor female. All believers enjoy full adoption rights and inheritance as God's children (Rom 8:14-17; Gal 4:4-7).

**Saith the Lord Almighty** (λέγει κύριος παντοκράτωρ, legei kyrios pantokratōr)—Pantokratōr means 'all-powerful, almighty, ruler of all' (used frequently in Revelation: 1:8; 4:8; 11:17; 15:3; 16:7, 14; 19:6, 15; 21:22). This title, translating Hebrew יְהִי־אֱלֹהֵינוּ (Yahweh Tseva'ot, 'LORD of hosts'), emphasizes God's sovereign power to fulfill His promises and protect His children. The One commanding separation has both the authority to demand it and the power to sustain those who obey.

This climactic verse transforms the call to separation from negative prohibition into positive promise: separation from the world results in adoption into God's family. We leave lesser loves and false securities to gain the infinite privilege of being God's beloved children, with all the intimacy, provision, protection, and inheritance that entails.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Greco-Roman society was organized around patron-client relationships and household loyalties. Paul reframes Christian identity using family language: believers are adopted into God's household as sons and daughters of the Almighty. This provided both comfort (the omnipotent God is our Father) and challenge (family loyalty requires separation from competing allegiances).

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does the promise of being God's son or daughter motivate your willingness to separate from worldly entanglements?
2. In what practical ways can you live as a child of 'the Lord Almighty'—trusting His power, honoring His name, enjoying His presence?
3. How should your identity as God's adopted child affect your daily priorities, relationships, and decisions?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	ἔσεσθέ	ὑμῖν	εἰς	πατέρα	καὶ	ὑμεῖς	ἔσεσθέ	μοι
And	shall be	unto you	G1519	a Father	And	ye	shall be	my
G2532	G2071	G5213		G3962	G2532	G5210	G2071	G3427
εἰς	υἱοὺς	καὶ	θυγατέρας	λέγει	κύριος	παντοκράτωρ		
G1519	sons	And	daughters	saith	the Lord	Almighty		
	G5207	G2532	G2364	G3004	G2962	G3841		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Revelation 21:7** (Parallel theme): He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

**John 1:12** (Parallel theme): But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

**2 Samuel 7:14** (Parallel theme): I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:

**Jeremiah 31:9** (Parallel theme): They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

**Romans 8:29** (Parallel theme): For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

**Galatians 3:26** (Parallel theme): For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

**Revelation 1:8** (References Lord): I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

**Isaiah 43:6** (Parallel theme): I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;

**Ephesians 1:5** (Parallel theme): Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

**Genesis 17:1** (References Lord): And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

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