



Part 1 (Lesson 15)

Identifying Our Inheritance (Part 1)

I. The Need for Revelation Concerning Our Inheritance

- A. Ephesians 1:17-20 What is the second item of 3 listed here that Paul prayed they would know? **(I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know ... what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints)**
- B. In your own words state what Paul then was praying for concerning this. (Clue: deals with revelation knowledge) **(He was praying that their spiritual eyes would be opened to see and understand the riches of the inheritance that is ours in Christ which includes the glory of God)**

II. An Inheritance from God

- A. In the following verses note what the scriptures teach us about our inheritance.
1. Acts 20:32 **(God's Word and His grace ("the word of His grace") is able to give us the inheritance among those who are sanctified) (Cross reference – John 17:17)**
 2. Ephesians 1:13-14 **(Having believed the gospel we are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise Who is a pledge from God of our inheritance)**
 3. Colossians 1:12-14 **(God the Father has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints by redeeming us through Christ and transferring us into the kingdom of light)**
 4. Colossians 3:23-24 **(We should do all that we do as servants, serving Christ, knowing that we will receive an inheritance from Christ)**

5. Hebrews 9:15 **(Under the new covenant we have received the promise of the eternal inheritance)**
6. Titus 3:5-7 **(Because God has sanctified us, given us new life, renewed us by His Holy Spirit and justified us by His grace, He has made us heirs for eternity)**
7. 1 Peter 1:2-5 **(We who are born again obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for us)**
8. Romans 8:15-17 **(As children of God we are heirs of God and fellow-heirs or co-heirs with Christ Jesus)**
9. Matthew 25:31-34 **(Christ will say to the righteous (sheep) on the day of judgment, “come inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.)**
10. Luke 12:32 **(We should not fear because the Father has chosen gladly to give us the Kingdom)**

III. The Holy Spirit – God’s Pledge of Our Inheritance

Obviously, there are many reasons that the Father has sent the Holy Spirit to live within us. He is our comforter, He leads us into all truth, He convicts us of sin, righteousness and judgment to come, and He brings the “gifts of the Spirit” to us etc. For our purpose in this lesson we want to look at another very special reason that the Father has given us His Spirit.

First of all we must understand the fact of the Holy Spirit indwelling the believer from the following verses. Note what each of them tells us.

- 1 Corinthians 3:16 **(Believers are a temple of God and the Holy Spirit dwells in them)**
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 **(Our bodies are a temple of the Holy Spirit Who lives in us)**
- Ephesians 2:19-22 **(We (the body of Christ) are a dwelling place for the Holy Spirit)**

Now look at the following verses and note how the Holy Spirit living in us is God’s pledge or down payment to us of our inheritance that we have in Christ.

Ephesians 1:13-14 **(The Holy Spirit in us is God's pledge to us of our inheritance)**

II Corinthians 5:2-5 **(The Holy Spirit in us is God's pledge to us of our heavenly body)**

II Corinthians 1:21-22 **(God sealed us and gave us the Holy Spirit as a pledge)**

Ephesians 4:30 **(We were sealed with the Holy Spirit for the day of redemption)**

Romans 8:23 **(The Holy Spirit in us is the first fruits of our inheritance)**

(Note that both Ephesians 1:13-14 and Romans 8:23 speak of our redemption (being redeemed) as a future tense event. Other verses like Ephesians 1:7 and Colossians 1:14 speak of redemption as something we have now. Write what you think may be the explanation of this.) **(Our spirits have been redeemed but the bodies we currently live in are unredeemed. Our future redeemed, new body is a part of our inheritance)**

III. Part of Our Inheritance – Glorified Bodies

(What do these verses tell us about our bodies?)

Philippians 3:20-21 **(Christ will transform our humble, lowly bodies into glorious bodies like His by the exertion of His great power)**

2 Corinthians 5:2-5 **(These bodies are temporary tents but we have a future heavenly dwelling. The Holy Spirit is the down payment or pledge of this)**

1 Corinthians 15:40-58 (Note verse 49) **(We will be transformed and bear the image of the heavenly in the twinkling of an eye)**

Ephesians 1:19-20 (By what power will this be accomplished?) **(God's power toward us)**

Conclusion: Notice how these fit together (Inheritance; Holy Spirit in Us; Redemption; Glorified Bodies; Adoption as Sons). (For an understanding of Adoption see Part 1- Lesson 16 - "Identifying Our Inheritance - Part 2"). The next lesson will help to give a fuller understanding of our inheritance in Christ.

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