



Part 1 (Lesson 16)

Identifying Our Inheritance (Part 2)

I. Review from “Identifying Our Inheritance (Part 1)”

- A. We need revelation from the Holy Spirit to see our inheritance – Ephesians 1:17-20
- B. We have an eternal inheritance in Christ (Heirs of God) – Romans 8:17; 1 Peter 1:2-4
- C. The Holy Spirit living in us is God’s pledge to us or His down payment, given to us to prove to us that the whole inheritance is ours – Ephesians 1:13-14; 2 Corinthians 5:2-5
- D. Our glorified body is a part of our inheritance – Philippians 3:20-21; Romans 8:15-23
- E. Entering into our inheritance comes at the same time we receive the redemption of our bodies and we receive our adoption as sons – Romans 8:23

II. Glory and Honor

Please prayerfully and carefully consider this section, it can change your life. Our inheritance is not just a beautiful place (Heaven). Our inheritance is much more profound, intimate and wonderful than just going to a great place. As you prepare to look at the next set of verses look at the following review from truths we have examined in other lessons. Remember to do this prayerfully, expecting the Holy Spirit to give you revelation knowledge which can change you forever.

We have seen:

Genesis 1:26 – We are created in the image and likeness of God.

John 1:12-13 – We are born of God and have received the right to become children of God.

Romans 8:28-29 – Jesus is our elder brother and we are predestined to become like Him.

1 John 3:1-3 – As children of God we will be like Jesus when we see Him face to face.

Romans 8:17 – As children of God we are God’s heirs (co-heirs with Jesus Christ).

Ephesians 1:13-14 – We are sealed by the Holy Spirit who is the pledge of our inheritance.

Now look at these scriptures that tell us of the key portion of our inheritance & make notes (focus on the word “glory”).

Isaiah 43:7 – We are created for **(“His glory”)** (This is God’s purpose in creating us)

Romans 5:1-2 **(We exalt in the hope of the glory of God)**

1 Thessalonians 2:12 **(God calls us into His own kingdom and glory)**

2 Timothy 2:10 **(Those who obtain salvation through Jesus obtain eternal glory with it)**

Romans 8:18 (see Amplified Version) **(In the future God’s glory will be revealed to us and in us and for us and conferred on us)**

2 Corinthians 4:4 **(The gospel (or good news) includes news about the glory of Christ)**

Colossians 1:26-27 **(The revealed mystery is Christ in you, the hope of glory)**

Hebrews 2:5-10 **(Crowned with glory & honor) (God is bringing many sons to glory)**

Genesis 1:26-28 tells us that Adam & Eve were created in the image and likeness of God.

What do you think that means? **(I believe Adam & Eve were glorious beings clothes in the glory of God until they sinned. After sin they were no longer clothed in the glory of God.)**

Consider this – Maybe we struggle to know what “in the image and likeness of God” means because we assume Adam & Eve looked like we do. Remember that when they were first created they were not yet fallen, and were not impacted by sin.

Matthew 17:1-2 – Describe what Jesus looked like when He was transfigured - **(His face shined like the sun. His garments (and body?) became white as light.)**

If Adam & Eve looked more like Jesus on the Mt. of Transfiguration than like we do now, what might have changed them and affected us? (See Romans 3:23) **(Sin results in us falling short of the glory of God that we were created for according to Isaiah 43:7)**

Romans 8:16-30 (especially verses 17,18,23,28-30) **(As children of God we are heirs of God. Our inheritance includes the glory of God. God predestined us to be glorified (v.30))**

2 Corinthians 3:16-18 **(As New Testament believers we are growing and becoming more like Jesus with ever increasing glory) (Note – I think some of this is seeing by faith)**

Exodus 34:29-35; 2 Corinthians 3:7-15 (How was Moses a preview of what we are told about believers in 2 Corinthians 3:16-18) **(As he spent time in God's presence His face would begin to shine with glory. It shined as he spoke God's Word and then faded.)**

Many have misunderstood what happened with Moses, thinking that he wore a veil so that the people would not see his face shining. A close examination of the passages in Exodus 34 and 2 Corinthians 3:7-15 reveals that he actually placed the veil over his face after he spoke with the people so that they would not see the glory departing (Exodus 34:33 and 2 Corinthians 3:13). This would have been discouraging to them. 2 Corinthians 3 speaks of this to show that the giving of the first covenant came with God's glory. How much more the giving of the second, better covenant that Jesus brought to us. At the end of the chapter he speaks of us viewing the glory of God increasing in our lives as we behold the glory of Lord in Christ. The phrase "from glory to glory" can also be translated "with ever increasing glory".

1 Corinthians 2:6-9 **(The now revealed mystery is to our glory)**

Colossians 3:1-4 **(When Christ is revealed we also will be revealed with Him in glory)**

Our inheritance is the glory of God. God's glory is in His holy character. We will be like Him (I John 3:2), we will share in His divine nature (II Peter 1:3-4), and because we will be like Him we will share in His glory for eternity (read Hebrews 2:10 - God's plan). ("bringing many sons to glory")

III. Other Aspects of Our Inheritance

A. John 3:16; Romans 6:23; John 11:25-26 **(Another aspect of our inheritance is eternal life which is found only in Jesus Christ)**

B. John 17:3 **(We can know God the Father and Jesus Christ His Son)**

- C. Compare Genesis 2:8-9; 3:22-24 & Revelation 2:7; 21:6; 22:1-3 **(The ability to eat of the tree of life and drink from the spring of the water of life)**
- D. Eternal Blessings – Ephesians 1:3; 2:6-7 **(Spiritual blessings in heavenly places and the surpassing riches of His grace shown through His kindness to us in Christ Jesus)**
- E. 2 Timothy 4:8; 1 Corinthians 9:25; Hebrews 2:7 **(A crown or imperishable wreath of righteousness, glory and honor)**
- F. Revelation 21:7 **(God will be our God and we will be His sons)**
- G. Heaven – Revelation 21:1-11, 22-27; Revelation 22:1-5, 12-17 **(Note – Beauty, provision, God’s personal presence, comfort, life, no mourning, crying or pain)**

IV. Adoption and Inheritance

*Have you ever wondered, “Am I a child of God because I am born of God (John 3:3-5) or because I am adopted into His family?” A misunderstanding of the Biblical use of the word “adoption” is widespread and can be confusing. Jesus said that we must be born of the Spirit to enter the kingdom of God and a proper understanding of adoption does not contradict this. The Greek word for “adoption” in the New Testament is “*uihothesia*” and it means “the placing as a son”. It is only used 5 times in the Bible and never indicates how we get saved but rather relates to “sonship” and our inheritance. In ancient times when the son of a rich man would reach adulthood the father would call people together and place his son publicly into his legal inheritance. This was called adoption. Read the key passage related to this in **Romans 8:23** which says that we are “waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies”. We don’t have adoption yet. It refers to the time when the Father gives us our inheritance. This includes the redemption of our bodies when we receive a glorious body like unto Jesus’ glorious body! We are saved by birth. We receive our inheritance by “adoption”, being placed forth as sons into the inheritance reserved for us in heaven.*

Conclusion: We have a tremendous inheritance. It involves the glory of God, a glorified body, a crown of righteousness, eternal life, sonship, heaven, the tree of life, and more. Our inheritance is reserved for us in heaven and will never perish, spoil, or fade away. The Holy Spirit is our pledge from God of all of this, our inheritance. Praise God! We don’t deserve it but it is ours in Christ. We will enter our inheritance and reign with Him!