

The Inheritance of the Saints

Ephesians 1:15-19

20 August 2021

THEME: Paul prayed for the Ephesians, that the eyes of their understanding might be enlightened, so that they might see, among other things, the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints. One of the greatest blessings for which God's people need to be thankful is their inheritance in Christ. But they cannot be thankful for what they cannot see. May the Lord enlighten your eyes today.

Ephesians 1:15-19

Paul prays that God will open the eyes of the understanding of the believers at Ephesus so that they may see something that they haven't been able to see before.

1. That they may know what is the hope of his calling (vs 18).
 2. That they may know what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe (vs 19).
 3. That they may know the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints (vs 18).
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WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO RECEIVE AN INHERITANCE IN JESUS CHRIST?

I. THE PARTAKERS OF GOD'S INHERITANCE

A. According to His Purpose (Ephesians 1:9-12).

- There is an inheritance that already belongs to us as believers (vs 11). This is given to us according to God's purpose and will (vs 12). (Not according to our works).

B. To Those Who have Trusted in Him (Ephesians 1:13-14)

- Those who have believed in Jesus Christ have a guaranteed, unconditional inheritance.
- There will be no boasting about this inheritance because every believer will have it.
- The Holy Spirit is the earnest (the guarantee) that we will receive this inheritance (vs 14).
 - We must hear the gospel and believe it (vs 14). (See 1 Cor 15:1-4).
 - Jesus died for our sins.
 - He was buried.
 - He rose from the dead after 3 days and 3 nights.

C. Made Heirs by the Justification of His Grace (Titus 3:7)

- Once you are justified by his grace, you become an heir according to the hope of eternal life.
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II. OUR PARTNER IN GOD'S INHERITANCE

A. As Joint-Heirs of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:16-18)

B. Heirs by the Spirit of His Son (Galatians 4:4-7)

III. THE PORTION OF OUR INHERITANCE

- A. Our Portion is the Lord (Psalm 16:5)
- B. Our Portion is Pleasant (Psalm 16:6)
- C. Our Portion is Particular to Us (Psalm 47:4) “He shall choose our inheritance for us...”

IV. THE PRESERVATION OF OUR INHERITANCE

- A. Reserved in Heaven for Us (1Peter 1:3-5) all who are kept by the power of God have this inheritance reserved in heaven. It is incorruptible, undefiled, and fadeth not away.
 - B. Able to Receive Deposits From Us (Matthew 6:19-20)
 - C. Leads to Greater Devotion From Us (Matthew 6:21)
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V. THE LORD’S PORTION OF THE INHERITANCE (What does God get from this?)

- A. The Lord’s Portion is His People (Deuteronomy 32:9) (The Lord gets us).
 - B. He is Taking a People for His Name (Acts 15:14) (We are God’s portion).
 - C. He Will Present it to Himself (Ephesians 5:25-27) (You are the present that the Lord gets).
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CONCLUSION:

If we could have our eyes opened to see all that the Lord has for us as an inheritance, we would want to do as much as we could possibly do for Him. We would want to present ourselves to him as a gift.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is your reasonable service.* Romans 12:1