**Man’s Desperate Problem & God’s Amazing Provision**

**Romans 8:1-17**

**(Lesson #13)**

**Some background as we come to chapter 8.** So far Paul has referred to the Spirit of God only four times throughout the whole book: **Rom 1:4, Rom 2:29, Rom 5:5, and Rom 7:6.** Here in Romans 8, Paul is going to refer to the Spirit of God (20 times).

Why now? Up until now Paul’s focus has been on justification. That is principally a discussion about what **Christ has done for us**. Paul is now going to begin to unpack the next natural major discussion point following justification and that is sanctification. Sanctification is principally a discussion about what the **Holy Spirit** wants to do and indeed can do in and through us.

***8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. 3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.***

**Vs 1 -** The therefore is linking back to many things that Paul has said, things from chapter 5 as well as the cry of his heart in chapter 7 where he lamented that sometimes, due to the sin nature that is still in him, he does not do the things he desires to do.

***There is therefore now no condemnation****,* the Greek word is **κατάκριμα** (katakrima). It means a **condemning sentence**, a **sentence of damnation**. Picture it as the **verdict handed down from the judge.**

This is a **judicial term** and involves the **decision to punish the guilty**. **BUT, there is therefore now... (at this time) no sentence of condemnation.**

This is a reaffirmation of **justification by faith**. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (in the new man).

You and I deserved the condemning sentence. But Jesus took our sins, **he bore our judgement at Calvary**. Therefore, God has decided not to punish us, having instead punished His Son!

**Paul is highlighting our union in Christ.**

**John explained it this way:** *“I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.” (Joh 15:5 ESV)*

This is a present **tense statement**, but the use of **“now”** the Greek word **νῦν** (nun) **highlights**, **reiterates**, and even **strengthens the point**.

**There is therefore now, at this time, no condemning sentence to those who are in Christ Jesus!**

**APPLICATION:** This is one of the greatest assurances God could ever say to us. There is therefore now, no condemnation, to those who are in Christ!

* **Notice there are not any additional qualifiers! This is justification, by grace, through faith!**

**Book Ends of Chapter 8:**

Chapter 8 opens: ***There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.***

Chapter 8 closes: Nothing in heaven or earth is ***able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

**\*\*\* No possibility of condemnation! No possibility of separation! \*\*\***

**Vs 2 -** Two things should capture your attention, let’s take them in reverse order:

1. You have been **set free** from the **law of sin and death**
2. This has been done by what Paul calls here, **the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus**

For the law of the Spirit of life has set **YOU** free, **In Christ...**

The **“law of the Spirit”** is an ambiguous term and scholars disagree exactly what Paul means.

**Frank Thielman:** *“The law of the Spirit of life, then is the power that enables believers to break free from sin’s use of the law for its own deadly purposes (cf. 7:5, 8-11) and experience eternal life (6:22).”*

**Rich Turner:** *I believe Paul is saying that law of the Spirit is the resource or the power that God has provided us with when we placed faith in Jesus that allows us to overcome the power of sin and death that previously had its way in our flesh.*

Paul’s use of the second person plural **“you”** **“you all”** or as we say in the south **“yall”** is a little surprising I would have suspected **“us”.** Paul wanted his readers in Rome to experience this directly and personally.

**If you are a believer, the liberating power of the Spirit of God in your life has and can overwhelm the power of sin we were just talking about at the end of chapter 7.**

This is **God’s amazing provision** for our desperate situation!

Why would Paul call the law, **“the law of sin and death?” Keep in mind a few points about the law:**

1. It is a reflection of God’s righteousness and His holiness
	1. It is itself holy, just, and good (Rom 7:12)
2. It outlines God’s expectations around conduct, for the Hebrew nation
3. It outlines the penalty, when broken
	1. Eze 18:20; Rom 3:23
4. It serves as a tutor to point us to Christ
	1. Gal 3:24-25
5. Unfortunately, once broken, it has no remedy
	1. Remember (Eze 18:20; Rom 3:23)

Now I will add where Paul plans to take us: We overcome the power of sin and death, moment by moment as we **Walk in the Spirit**.

Last week, I highlighted Galatians 5:17 to show that this inner struggle in the lives of believers:

*“17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.” (Ga 5:17 ESV)*

Now, I need you to see what else Paul said in that condensed version of Romans 7 and 8:

*“16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.” (Ga 5:16-18 ESV)*

The flesh (old nature, old patterns of behavior, the way we naturally behaved because of the fall) is warring against the Spirit (new man that is spiritually alive), and at times we do not do the things we desire to do (Romans 7). But that is not the end of the story! There is another chapter, **God’s Amazing Provision!**

This is it, we can overcome sin (we overpower the old man and the old nature in our lives) **by walking in the Spirit**.

Walking is the goal, but stumbling in an ever-present possibility:

*“For we all stumble in many ways...” (Jas 3:2a ESV)*

As I walk in the Spirit, I am able to overcome (overpower if you will) the law of sin (in the old man)(old nature)(flesh)(old desires)(Adamic nature).

We walk in the Spirit, we stumble because of our flesh. Walking is successfully moving, an unsuccessful step, an interruption in walking, is stumbling! Stumbling is a metaphor for sinning.

Walking in the Spirit, requires **attention**, **alertness**, an **ongoing responsibility to pay attention**, or you could stumble.

Life is a series of moments. Each moment is a chance for another step with God, or a stumble. Believers do not try to stumble, but James is correct, we all do sometimes stumble.

**Vs 3 -** So the law when you bring in the flesh (a fallen man or woman) or the fallen nature there is something that it (the law) could not do.

The perfect law of God when combined with my fallen and weak nature could not get the job done, it could not cause me to live a holy live, it could not address the fundamental problem that I had broken the law.

It could not fix the problem of the broken law; and because of my fallen nature, it could not motivate me to live a godly life.

The law in a lost person only stirs up lostness:

*“Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,” (Ro 5:20 ESV)*

*“7 What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." 8 But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead.” (Ro 7:7-8 ESV)*

The problem was not in the law, rather there is a two-fold issue:

1. The law contained no remedy.
2. There is another issue, our tendency since the fall, to sin.
	1. The law had no way to correct that.
	2. In fact, for the fallen man the law actually aggravates that issue!

**So the law, holy righteous and good could not correct the problems.**

**But, God has done what the law could not do! Hallelujah!**

When the limitless God runs into one of our limitations... It is here we find the **Amazing Provision of God**!

God accomplished by the atoning death of his Son, the destruction of the power of sin in believers and allows them, by the power of the Spirit, (who now lives within them) to live lives that bear fruit unto God.

Notice... He sent his own son! **The second person of the Godhead stepped out of heaven and came to fix the impossible problem!**

He did not just send his son, his son (the second person of the God-head) took on flesh like us (yet without sin):

*“5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Php 2:5-11 ESV)*

**Jesus came for sin and condemned sin in the flesh!**

**Think about this... This is the same word used for condemnation in verse 1.** TheGreek word is **κατάκριμα** (katakrima). **Here we are told Jesus,**  **κατάκριμα** (katakrima), **pronounced a damning sentence upon sin.**

**God condemned sin in the flesh, through the incarnation and sending his son in human flesh!**

**Vs 4 -** Sin and death are condemned, ***in order that, the righteous requirement of the law, might be fulfilled in us who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.***

As we walk in the Spirit, we are fulfilling the righteous requirements of the law!

**Again, we see Paul using walk, for the direction of our lives. We are walking in (according to) the flesh or we are walking in (according to) the spirit.**

**OK, let’s connect a dot:**

*“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.” (Mt 5:17 ESV)*

The Greek word is **πληρόω** (pleroo). It means to bring to completion, to complete, to fill, to make complete, to carry through. Jesus came to **πληρόω** (pleroo) the commandments of God.

One of the purposes according to Paul, of the atoning sacrificial death of the Lord Jesus Christ was **to fulfill the righteous requirements of the law**, in us who walk not according to the flesh, but **according to the Spirit**.

Now notice one additional thing, the righteous requirements of the law are being fulfilled in those who walk (present tense) according to the Spirit.

There are numerous things that could trip us up, and occasionally even the best of us will stumble. But Paul would tell us:

*“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.” (Ga 5:16 ESV)*

We are commanded to be filled with the Sprit and to walk in the Spirit. Let me show you:

*“And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,” (Eph 5:18 ESV)*

This is a **present tense imperative**. It is **a command** to **be, being, continually filled with the Holy Spirit**.

**Practically, how do we do this?** Let’s go back and look in context:

*“18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 ¶ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ. 22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.” (Eph 5:18-22 ESV)*

As you consider the question, Paul seemed to understand that it had something to do with these things:

1. The word of God
2. Worship of God
3. Thankfulness to God,
4. Unity with the body.

When Paul talks about this same thing with the church in Colossae, here is what he writes:

*“16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. 18 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.” (Col 3:16-18 ESV)*

Here walking in the Spirit, is referred to as **“letting the word of Christ dwell in you richly.”** This is a great synonym for walking in the Spirit or being filled with the Spirit.

**But you should see the same points:**

1. The word of God (in this case Christ)
2. Worship of God
3. Thankfulness to God,
4. Unity with the body.

So being **filled with the spirit**, or **walking in the Spirit**, is a **moment by moment** event that involves being **led by God’s Spirit** thought **God’s word, worshipping God**, being **thankful to God,** and **united** with others in the body.

If these four things are operative, I would say you are walking in the Spirit, you are filled with the Spirit, and the righteous requirements of the law are being fulfilled in you!

If these four are not operative, then you have stumbled and you need to start walking again in the Spirit!

We must beware of grieving the Holy Spirit (Eph 4:30) or quenching the Holy Spirit (I Thes 5:19).

**APPLICATION:** As you look at the direction (walk) of your life (today). Would you summarize it as in the Spirit or in the flesh?

**The better our walk does not make us more saved**. To use Missler’s analogy, our passport to heaven has been stamped (justification). I would add stamped in the precious blood of the Son of God. **This is practical sanctification and it occurs as we walk in the Spirit.**

**Vs 5 -** Here Paul helps us answer the question for ourselves. Are we walking in the Spirit or in the flesh.

The carnal person (lost person) lives for and seeks after carnal things. The carnal person has their focus on carnal things.

But those who live according to the Spirit. Those who walk in the Spirit, those who stay in step with the Spirit. They are focused on spiritual things. They are seeking spiritual things.

**Vs 6 - To focus only on the flesh is death, while to set our minds on the Spirit is life and peace.**

Notice the mind, the inner person. Stay in step with the Spirit. Focus on the Spirit, fuel the Spirit!

As believers, it is possible to take our eyes of God and out of His word and mind the things of the flesh, but why in the world would we want to? That life leads to death!

**Vs 7 - Again notice the mind.** The mind that is focused only on the flesh is hostile against God, it will not submit to God’s laws.

Indeed, because it is still under the reign of sin and death, it cannot.

**This is a warning to anyone who might imagine, well I am just a fleshly believer.**

**Vs 8 - A person who lives after the flesh, following the desires of the flesh, cannot please God.**

The flesh is set against God, the flesh does not have that ability to keep God’s laws, the flesh is stirred up against God’s laws. **A life lived in the flesh cannot please God!**

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***9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.***

**Vs 9 - δέ** (de) *–* **But**, **so then**, **however**... **You, believers are not in the flesh!**

So Paul in chapter seven outlined the warfare that is going on in each believer. He is reminding us that the presence of **internal warfare**, is **evidence** that you are in Christ, while a person set wholly on the flesh is a lost person, they cannot please God, they are in rebellion against God.

**Believers are not living a life governed by the flesh, rather they are governed by the Spirit that dwells in them.**

Rather, believers are living in the Spirit. If in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you (modern vernacular – Jesus in your heart).

Do you see this, **the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Christ, and Christ in you** are all saying the same thing.

**The third person of God lives in YOU! Because that is true, you are not in the flesh! Because these things are true, you may stumble, but you cannot live in the flesh.**

**To live in the flesh shows that you do not have the Spirit, and all who belong to God have the Spirit!** But you are “in” the Spirit, connected to, in union with, the Spirit!

Now look at the back half of verse 9: ***“Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.”***

**Theology Break: Having the Spirit of God (baptized by the Spirit)(Mar 1:8, Acts 1:5, 11:16):**

The moment you believed in Jesus, God’s Spirit (third person of the Godhead) came to live within you! This is a permanent indwelling of the Spirit in believers:

*“16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 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.” (Joh 14:16-17 ESV)*

*“37 ¶ On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’" 39 Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.” (Joh 7:37-39 ESV)*

When we are saved, we are given the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit lives within us. The permanent indwelling of the Spirit is not for a select few believers, but for all believers.

The Holy Spirit is given to believers as a down payment, a guarantee, a seal or confirmation of our future glorification in Christ ([2 Corinthians 1:22](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/2%20Cor%201.22); [Ephesians 4:30](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Eph%204.30)).

**When we are saved, God gives us all of his Spirit. He does not give His Spirit in percentages or degrees.** **We have THE Holy Spirit living with us. It is not a thing we are receiving but a person!**

In fact, if we do not have the Holy Spirit living within us, that means we are not saved. Born again is synonymous with having the Holy Spirit.

**Vs 10 - If Christ is in you. That is a conditional statement in the Greek. THEN - the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness**

Paul has established that Christ is in every believer and the believer is in Christ. **Since that is true!**

Now, when you placed faith in Jesus Christ, spiritually you were brought to life, spiritually you rose to new life right then. **But the body is still dying and, in a sense, as Paul has indicated it is dead.**

You are a spiritually alive person, who is carrying around dead flesh that is waiting for the resurrection!

**Vs 11 -** If... the Holy Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you.

**Paul has already established he does...** Do you see the condition? Is that TRUE for you?

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you... Dwells is present tense. If this is true now. If he does because you have placed faith in Jesus. **If presently he does. THEN>>>** **The same holy Spirit will also give** (future tense and indicative mood) **life** to your, can I add, (good as dead right now) mortal bodies.

**But how will he do it?** Not much by way of details, but enough to get the point.

**At the resurrection of the dead, God will transform the mortal bodies of believers and make them immortal through the Spirit that now lives within them.** Just like Jesus!

**He will do it through the very same Spirit** (the third person of the Godhead) who is **living in you** (present tense) right now!

OK, I want to paint a picture from I Corinthians 15:51-54.

I would add death, was swallowed up, in the instant we are stripped of this fallen, Adamic flesh, and we were clothed with a completely righteous flesh, like Jesus has. Paul said it this way to the church in Corinth:

*“1 For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, 3 if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. 4 For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened —  not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.” (2Co 5:1-4 ESV)*

In as much as we have an eternal home in God’s house (**Joh 14:2**), we have an eternal tent, a new and eternal body in which we will live forever with God in heaven!

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***12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 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!" 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 ¶ and if children, then heirs —  heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.***

**Vs 12 -** But when we consider what God has done for us and what awaits us. We are not debtors to the flesh, but we are indeed are debtors to God!

Debtors, not to live according to the flesh! When temptation comes along, remember, you do not have to obey, what has it done for you? You now have the ability to live in the Spirit, to walk in the Spirit!

What is life according to the flesh, Paul gives us some examples in Gal 5:

*“19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.” (Ga 5:19-21 ESV)*

*“9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, 10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.” (1Co 6:9-11 ESV)*

**As believers, indwelt by the Spirit of God, we owe a debt, to no longer to live according to the flesh!**

The ability has been placed within us! God’s greatest provision has been given to us.

**Frank Thielman:** *“Believers are now free from the overpowering influence of the flesh and need not cave in to the pressure to sin that the flesh places on them.”*

*“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.” (Ga 5:16 ESV)*

*“And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,” (Eph 5:18 ESV)*

**Vs 13 - I hope you see the bleak picture of a person who would claims to be filled with the Spirit, and yet lives according to the flesh. Paul would say you are teetering on the brink of death.**

**To live after the flesh is death.** To live after the flesh is evidence that a person may not be born again!

**God’s amazing provision provides the ability for us**, day by day, and moment by moment, **“kill” the deeds of the old man.**

**What does putting to death the deeds of the body mean?** We have God’s Spirit in us. Now let us walk in the Spirit, let us be filled with the Spirit!

**Vs 14 - Statement of fact.** Not up for debate**! If you are led by the Spirit, you are a son or a daughter of God!**

Those who are led **(present tense)** by the Spirit of God, are **(present tense)** the Sons of God!

So let’s bring this a little bit sharper into English: **For as many as are being continually led by the Spirit of God, they are the true and eternal Sons and Daughters of God!**

Being led by the Spirit is not about something that happened 10 years ago. It is about an ongoing process in our lives, because God’s Spirit lives in us.

The Spirit helps us make decisions that please God and not cave to the desires of our flesh:

*“16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.” (Ga 5:16-18 ESV)*

**God’s amazing provision.

Vs 15 -** Again, Paul reminds us of **God’s amazing provision**. When we placed faith in Jesus Christ we were not only justified, we were given the Spirit of God, the third person of the Godhead to live within us!

We did not receive the Spirit of slavery! So that we might sing back into fear...

You and I have been set free from the harsh conditions of slavery to sin and have become God’s adopted sons and daughters through the power of the Holy Spirit.

You have received the Spirit of God, what Paul here calls the “Spirit of Adoption” and although you were formally an alien, not part of the household of God.

Adoption laws during Paul’s time:

**Chuck Missler:** *In Roman law, adoption was required, even of a legitimate son, to inherit. This ceremony, legally held in the forum, was called the “Adoption.” All born in his family were children, but only those adopted were rec­ognized as sons. After adoption, they could never be disowned. But they can be disinherited.*

Not only have we been adopted into the family of God and the Spirit enables us to cry out, to appeal to our loving Father! You and I now know the creator of the universe as **Abba**, **Father**, **Daddy**, as **Dad.**

He is no longer this God somewhere out there, who you have sinned against, and his righteous demands hang over our heads. Now, he is our dad, He is near, He loves us deeply and cares dearly for us!

**Vs 16 -** This is the verse we point people to when they are doubting their salvation.

I cannot verify you have been born again. That is not my job and I really do not have the knowledge to tell you for sure.

**But, the Holy Spirit on the other hand, he bears witness directly with your spirit that you are a child of God.** He speaks into the recesses of your heart.

In fact... **God’s Spirit is bearing witness to your Spirit, right now.** Pause, listen to his testimony what is He saying to you **right now** and what is your response?

**Notice verse 17,** and if you are God’s child: ***then you are an heir —  an heir of God and fellow heirs with Christ.***

**If you are a child of God you are an heir of God...**

**The word translated heir is κληρονόμος** (kleronomos). The word means someone who **receives an inheritance**, someone who **receives an allotted possession** of a son.

Now that is enough. I cannot get over that a wicked vile sinner such as myself will not only spend eternity in heaven with God, but God the Father has an inheritance for me.

**Notice in verse 17: *you are a fellow heirs with Christ!*** The Greek word translated fellow heir is **συγκληρονόμος** (sugkleronomos). This Greek word means a **“joint heir”** a **co-equal heir**, an heir who is participating, co-equally.

Now notice, we are not co-equal heirs together (by ourselves alone). We are co-equal heirs with Jesus!

If we suffer with Jesus (trials, tribulations, persecutions) we can be assured that one day we will be glorified together with HIM!

We have talked about justification, we have talked about sanctification, now another “Christian” word, glorification. We will only discuss briefly and pick this back up at our next lesson.

**But this is the final promised, eternal state. For a short answer, glorification is God’s final removal of sin from the life of the saints. It is our final, eternal state, having a new spirit and then a new body.**

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