

Inheritance – Joint Heirs with Jesus Christ

Jesus Is The Heir Of All Things

Hebrews 1:1-4 *Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, (2) but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. (3) He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, (4) having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.*

God created the world through Jesus Christ, who is the Word of God and the Wisdom of God. God the Father made Jesus the firstborn heir of all things. Jesus is far superior to the angels. Jesus is the Son of God and He is the exact imprint and image of God. Jesus upholds the Universe by the word of His power. He is the very radiance and glory of God. Jesus will inherit the entire Universe both material and spiritual and we will inherit all things with Him!

Romans 8:16-17 *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.*

2 Timothy 2:12 *if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us;*

These verses inform us that we will become fellow heirs with Christ, providing we take up our Cross and suffer with Him as godly saints who are afflicted in this present evil age.

The gospel of John and Colossians (below) state that “all things were created through Him and for Him” and that He has reconciled all things to Himself, whether on earth or in Heaven:

Colossians 1:15-20 *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. (16) For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. (17) And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (18) And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. (19) For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, (20) and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.*

John 1:1-3 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (2) He was in the beginning with God. (3) All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.*

Since we become sons of God and citizens of heaven, we will through the ages move into positions of authority in the universe that God created for Jesus and us His brethren (Hebrews 2:11) long ago. We are seated in heavenly realms with Christ Jesus so that “in the coming ages” He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace toward us in Christ Jesus. In other words, God has planned to take Christians “from the gutter-most to the uttermost” as some preacher has said!

Ephesians 2:4-7 *But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, (5) even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— (6) and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, (7) so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.*

At the moment Jesus is taking back His authority from the trespassing demonic hordes that have occupied planet Earth:

1 Corinthians 15:24-26 *Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. (25) For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. (26) The last enemy to be destroyed is death.*

Ephesians 1:20-23 *that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, (21) far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. (22) And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, (23) which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.*

The Abrahamic Inheritance

Romans 4:13 *For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.*

Galatians 3:7-9 *Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. (8) And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” (9) So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.*

Galatians 3:29 *And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.*

God promised Abraham and his offspring that they would inherit the world, and we who are of faith are the sons of Abraham. Therefore, we will inherit the “kosmos” (the world). Our inheritance is based on our faith in Christ and God’s ancient promise to Abraham.

Authority Over The Nations

The saints inherit the earth during the Millennium and they have real and substantial authority and can rule with a rod of iron, shattering the wicked like potter’s vessels! The fact that the meek will inherit the earth is a rebuke to the dominant, the imperialists, and the egotists who use fear, greed and cruelty to build their empires. At this point there is a clear distinction between the righteous and the wicked and the justice of God will be clear and most evident. Those who keep Christ’s works to the end will be the true overcomers and conquerors:

Matthew 5:5 *“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.*

Revelation 2:26-29 *The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, (27) and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father. (28) And I will give him the morning star. (29) He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'*

The faithful servants of God who have endured hardship for the gospel will sit in thrones:

Revelation 20:4-6 *Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. (5) The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. (6) Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.*

Matthew 19:27-30 *Then Peter said in reply, "See, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?" (28) Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. (29) And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life. (30) But many who are first will be last, and the last first.*

The holy saints of God will become kings and priests and they will reign upon the earth

Revelation 5:9-10 *And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, (10) and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."*

Reigning Forever And Ever

Revelation 22:4-5 *They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. (5) And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.*

Daniel 7:27 *And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; his kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.'*

There is also an enduring and eternal aspect to our inheritance that will go far beyond the Millennium. Since God will show us the immeasurable riches of His grace in the ages to come, we will increase in authority throughout eternity. All the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to us, the saints of the Most High.

The Inheritance Of The Saints

We are not mere slaves who receive a wage or a reward. We are also sons and daughters of the Living God who receive a glorious inheritance that we have not earned in any way, shape or form:

Galatians 4:4-7 *But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, (5) to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. (6) And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” (7) So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.*

We are the sons of God and the angels are the servants of God, part of God's great household, and their current task is assisting those who will inherit such a great salvation:

Hebrews 1:13-14 *And to which of the angels has he ever said, “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”? (14) Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?*

This inheritance is both predestined by God the Father and is sealed and guaranteed by the Holy Spirit of Truth:

Ephesians 1:10-14 *as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. (11) In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, (12) so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. (13) In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, (14) who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.*

This inheritance can only be fully understood by supernatural wisdom and revelation, therefore we need to be in earnest prayer for a true knowledge of the glorious inheritance of the saints:

Ephesians 1:17-18 *that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, (18) having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,*

Colossians 1:12-14 *giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. (13) He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, (14) in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

This inheritance is purely by the Grace of God, and not by our own works:

Titus 3:7 *so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*

However, it requires persistence in faith, we must not abandon our inheritance:

Hebrews 6:11-12 *And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, (12) so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.*

God wants us to inherit the Kingdom and to have eternal life and that is His unchangeable purpose:

Hebrews 6:17-18 *So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, (18) so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.*

This inheritance is a promised eternal inheritance, not a temporary spiritual high, and it is kept in Heaven for us and is imperishable, undefiled and unfading:

Hebrews 9:15 *Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.*

1 Peter 1:3-4 *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (4) to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,*

Conclusion

Rewards and inheritances declare the goodness and love of God to us. In His kindness and mercy, He prepared these marvelous, glorious things for us from before the foundation of the world. God has a plan, and that plan is to glorify us!

Romans 8:29-30 *For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. (30) And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.*

John 17:22 *The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one,*

2 Corinthians 3:18 *And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.*

The rewards indicate that our effort and our endurance matter to God. Our conscientiousness does not earn our salvation, but it does matter to God, and He will reward us for it. Heavenly rewards are not like a race where everyone gets the same participation trophy no matter how much effort they put in. These rewards are real rewards for running the race well, so as to win the prize!

An inheritance is not earned. Someone else earns it, and upon their death we inherit the inheritance. It is possible for a very lazy person to inherit a billion dollars if they are in the will. The inheritance of the saints goes far beyond what we could possibly be rewarded for, the resurrection body, inheriting the Kingdom of God, and ruling and reigning with Christ through all the ages to come, one after another for all eternity, so that the Lord can demonstrate His love for us (Ephesians 2:7). We are like the lazy person who inherits large fortune. The inheritance is by grace through faith. It is the Father's gift to us!

I hope that these studies have touched both your heart and your mind and caused you to pray for the things of the Spirit and not just the things of the here and now. Please share your key insights with others, preach them, teach them, and make them your own.