

Romans 8:16-18

Heirs of Glory

1. 8:12-19 – The Spirit of Life and Glory

- a. 8:13 – Through the Spirit... ye shall live
- b. 8:14 – Led by the Spirit = sons of God
- c. 8:15-16 – Spirit of adoption witnesses we are children of God
- d. 8:17 – Children = heirs and joint-heirs of glory
- e. 8:18 – Sufferings now, but glory shall be revealed.
- f. 8:19 - ... wait for the manifestation of the sons of God (in glory). <-- hope

2. 8:16 – Children of God

- a. We already know we stand in grace rejoicing in the hope of glory – Rom 5:1-2,
- b. The Spirit witnesses that we are children of God – Rom 5:5, 8:16
- c. Not all are children of God (Gen 5:3, Rom 5:12) – Matt 15:26, Rom 9:8, Eph 2:2, 12
- d. We became children of God by faith in Jesus – Eph 1:5, 5:6-8, Gal 3:26
- e. Our childhood (by adoption) is acc. to the mystery – Gal 3:26-29, Eph 3:6

3. 8:17 – Heirs of God and Joint-Heirs with Christ

- a. The first-born son received inheritance: Christ, the Son of God (you in him)
- b. Sons = children = heirs; our being heirs dependent on being one with Christ Gal 4:1-7
- c. God and Christ have a Father-Son relationship in the Godhead – Heb 1:2, 2:8
- d. We're sons of God, too, but not by being in a covenant, but being in Christ, Christ in us.
- e. We need to be joint-heirs with Christ to receive inheritance being not under law
- f. With Christ you are: one body Col 3:15, partakers of his promise, crucified Gal 2:20, dead and alive Rom 6:8, heirs Eph 2:5-6, receive all things Eph 1:3, 11,18-22, Rom 8:37
- g. We have all these things due to our being fellowheirs with Christ - Eph 3:6
- h. Included in these things we have in Christ is the hope of glory – Col 1:27, Rom 8:17
- i. We are 'co-heirs, co-sufferers, and co-glorified' with Christ – this is our hope!

4. Beware of Joint-Error Heresy

- a. Don't let anyone deny you the riches of God's grace acc. to the mystery. Col 2:8-10
- b. A longtime contention over whether there is a conditional inheritance in v17.
 - i. Some see the 'glory' here assumed to be reigning 'as kings' as in Rev 20:6
 - ii. Some see the condition presented as 'overcoming' as in Rev 3:21, 21:7
 - iii. All see Paul teaching something like the judgment seat here. 1 Cor 3:13-14
 - iv. All change the grammar of the KJ to teach making joint-heir conditional.
- c. But... the judgment seat of Christ is not being taught here, nor is our work anywhere.
 - i. Salvation and service are to be distinguished, but Rom 8 is not your work.
 - ii. Rom 8:14-16 makes all believers sons of God (which is a joint-heir by def).
 - iii. Rom 8:18 describes sufferings as in the present time – Gal 1:4, Rom 7:25, 8:9-11
 - iv. Different rewards are given, but all in Rom 7 also face suffering now - Eph 5:16
 - v. Suffering and the Spirit were brought up first in Rom 5:3-4
 - vi. All in Christ will reign with Christ whether they suffer or not – Rom 5:21, Eph 2:6
 - vii. Mystery fellowship is eternal glory to Gentile sinners – 2 Th 2:14, 2 Tim 2:10-12
- d. The hope of glory described here is conditional on first being "with Christ".