

Heirs with Christ

Romans 8:12-17

Context: Romans is Paul's "Magnum Opus" letter on the Gospel. The central theme of Romans 5–8 is that believers in Christ, who are righteous in God's sight, have a certain hope of future glory and life eternal.

As an heir with Christ...

I. _____ at your new debt (vs. 12)

- a. "Debtors" - Greek "opheiletēs", one who is obligated. The Christian is now under obligation to not live according to the flesh. We are free to not obey our sinful natures anymore.
- b. "We should not follow sin anymore. We do not have an obligation to it as our master; such a path is fatal, and God has not given us a spirit of fear (vv. 12, 13, 15a)" (Al Mohler)

II. _____ according to the Spirit (vs. 13-14)

- a. In Christ, God has provided us with a completely new way to live - in and through the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us to live the Christian life in obedience to the Word of God.
- b. The Spirit provides us with the energy and power to continually and gradually be killing our sins, a process never completed in this life. (MacArthur Study Bible)

III. _____ the benefits of your new family (vs. 15-17)

- a. Every believer has been made an heir of God, our Father (Matt. 25:34; Gal. 3:29; Eph. 1:11; Col. 1:12; 3:24; Heb. 6:12; 9:15; 1 Pet. 1:4). We will inherit eternal salvation (Titus 3:7), God Himself (Lam. 3:24; cf. Ps. 73:25; Rev. 21:3), glory (5:2), and everything in the universe (Heb. 1:2). (MacArthur Study Bible)
- b. As adopted children, we have direct access to the Father, the indwelling Holy Spirit who reminds us of our adoption, and we are joint-heirs with Jesus.
- c. Paul is calling us "joint-heirs," a term understood within Roman law where the inheritance was divided equally between all of the children.