

## OUR INHERITANCE IN CHRIST

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you.”

1 Peter 1:3-4

## THE SOURCE OF OUR INHERITANCE

John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” In essence, our blood and love relationship with God can only be established through believing in and surrendering to Christ, resulting in receiving our inheritance of eternal life with God.

Similarly, parents leave their children an inheritance that is conditioned on and the result of the blood and love relationship with their parents. However, when relationships are broken, children are disinherited as a result.

Jesus outlined the unfolding event to take place, concerning the inheritance of God’s Kingdom: “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’” (Mat. 25:30-34)

Do we see ourselves on the sheep, or the goat’s side?

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“In Him also we have obtained an inheritance,  
being predestined according to the purpose  
of Him who works all things  
according to the counsel of His will,  
that we who first trusted in Christ  
should be to the praise of His glory.”



Eph. 1:11-12

## THE PATH TO OUR INHERITANCE

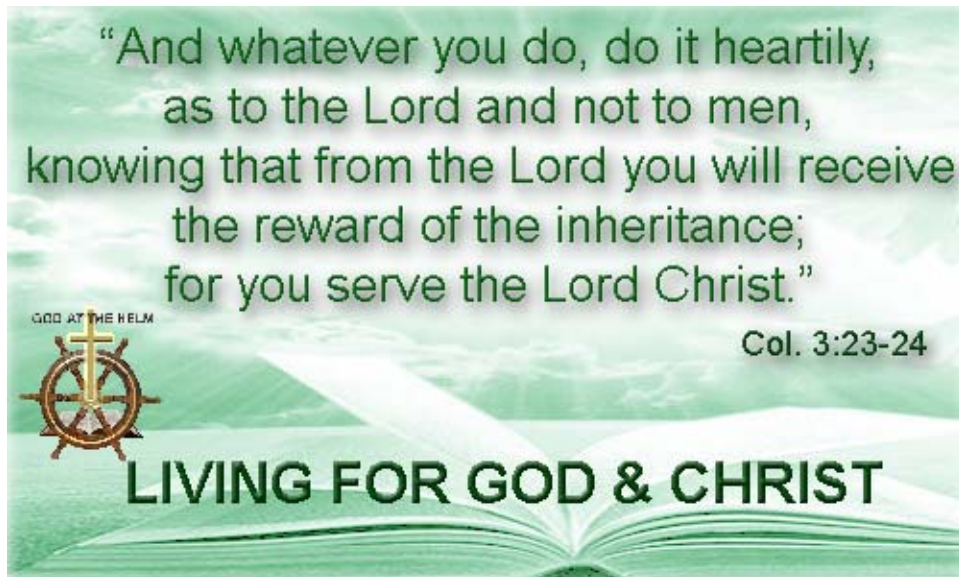
The promise by God for the inheritance of His Kingdom, in other words to be eternally in the presence of God and Christ, is preempted by the fact that the promise is from God, the condition is to be in Christ, and that is further sealed through the Holy Spirit living in the heart of true believers. And that is exactly what every believer lives for, having the conviction of the promise, something the world can't understand because they are dead spiritually.

Ephesians 1:13-14 says, “In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”

As true believers, our faith is not in man, the world or religions, but rather our faith and trust is in God's Word, which points to Christ, and Christ only as Savior. While this might seem foolish to the world, it is the reality of God, and the inheritance awaiting us is found through acknowledging Christ's teachings, to believe in His salvation power, to follow Him through surrender and living to serve Him.

Let's celebrate this Resurrection of Christ to His Glory!

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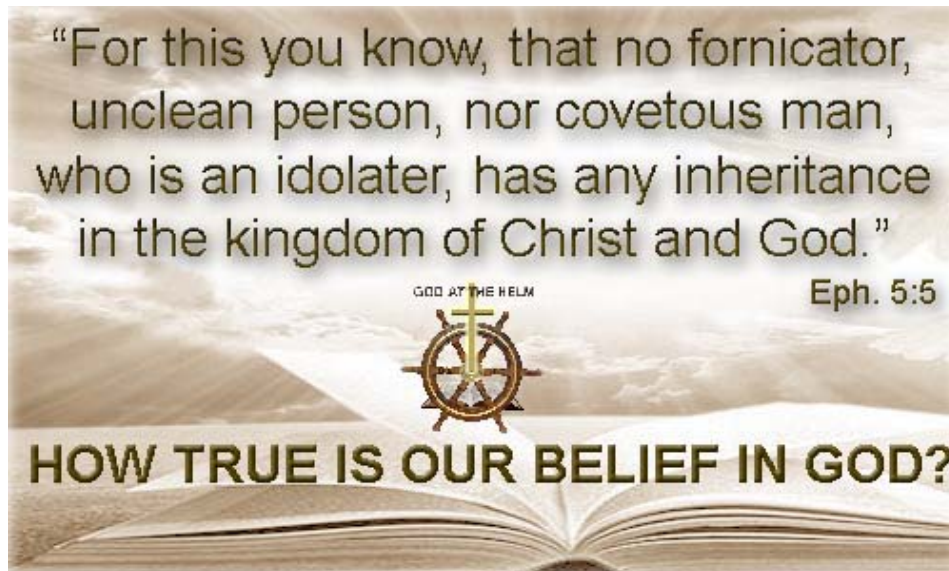
If we are born of the Spirit of Christ, how should we live in expectation of our eternal inheritance? The featured scripture teaches us that we're to live for God and Christ, and anything we do, plan, think or say should be done with Christ in mind always.

1Peter 1:13 says, “Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest *your* hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” In other words, let's live in expectation of our heavenly inheritance in God's presence, always keeping in mind the true purpose of our short life on this earth.

Are there challenges involved to living for God and Christ? Jesus clearly stated this fact and said: “Whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.” (Luke 14:27) Indeed, when we truly believe and follow Christ, we can expect trials and rejection from the world, and even from family. Paul, in Romans 8:18-19 however added, “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.”

Where is our anchor, and who are we following, Christ or the world?

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Can we say we believe in Christ and still espouse the world's sinful attitudes, and think we will receive an inheritance of eternal life with God? Can we seek after the pleasures of the flesh, the adulation of the world, and think that belonging to a religion will bring us salvation? Can we be so deceived and foolish as to think that we can have our way in this life and think we can fool God?

If we confess to believe in Christ, and if we are honest and true to our word, we would know without the shadow of a doubt that believing infers a lot more than saying it. Believing incorporates seeking to know Christ, His will, His commandments, His teachings, and when we do, it requires that we follow and apply those teachings to our lives. That's what is referred to as surrendering our lives to God and follow Him, as Jesus teaches us in His Word.

That's why Paul said in 1Cor. 6:9-10, "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."

Serious business involving serious consequences as well, right?

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