

Co-Heirs with Christ

Description

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Romans 8:1-17

What does it mean to be an heir? Jesus promised he would send the Holy Spirit—the Comforter—so we would be inspired to tell the gospel story and God can keep in touch with us. Paul elaborates the benefits of the Holy Spirit by contrasting the life of the flesh with the life of the spirit. Not only does life in the spirit mean we focus on serving God, it also means we are not merely servants (slaves) in God's household. Life in the spirit means we are children of God! We are heirs, with all the privileges and responsibilities that come with inheritance. We belong to God, not just as servants or friends of the family, but heirs with Jesus.

Throughout the Bible, we can find examples of the reciprocal nature of God's promises. When a covenant is written, both parties have responsibilities. Inheritance is no different. As "co-heirs with Christ . . . we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory" (Romans 8:17). However, the eternal benefits far outweigh the suffering.

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