

INTRODUCTION

- * Over the past two weeks, we have considered Paul's exhortation to the church of Philippi through his own personal testimony to pursue Christ. The "gain" of Knowing Christ was worth the loss of everything else!
- * We have considered the need to forget the past and to have a passion to pursue Christ.
- * Today, we want to consider the primary motive for this pursuit - the future reservation that we have in heaven as a result of our faith in Christ Jesus. Through the pen of Peter we read, ³ "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, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (1 Peter 1:3-5) Through faith in Christ, we are promised an inheritance in heaven which is "reserved" in heaven and "kept" by the power of God!

INSTRUCTION

I. YOUR RESURRECTION (v. 7-12)

- A. Paul's Con_____ (cf. 1:21-23; 2 Corinthians 5:8; 2 Timothy 4:6-8)
- B. Paul's "Con_____"

II. YOUR PERFECTION (v. 12-14)

A. Paul's Expressions

B. Our Sanctification

1. P_____ SANCTIFICATION (v. 15)
 - a. Purchased by a Legal Propitiation (cf. 1 John 2:1-2; 4:10; Hebrews 2:10-11; 9:13-14; 10:10-14,29; 13:12)
 - b. Proclaimed by a Judicial Declaration (cf. Rom 8:28-30; 1 Cor 1:30; 3:16-17; 6:9-11; 2 Thess 2:13)
 - c. Preserved by a Faithful God (cf. 1 Peter 1:1-4; 1 Thess 5:23; Jude 1; 1 John 5:11-13)
2. P_____ SANCTIFICATION (v. 13-14)
 - a. The Mark (cf. Isaiah 6:1-5; Revelation 4:2-11; 1 Peter 1:13-16; Romans 8:29)
 - b. The Method
 - i. *THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD* (cf. Romans 8:28-29; Philippians 1:6; 2:12-13)
 - ii. *THE CHOICE OF MAN* (cf. Romans 12:1-2; 6:19-22) ... a commitment ... a living sacrifice ... a series of choices
 - c. The Means (cf. John 17:17,19; Eph 5:25-27; Psalm 119:9,11; Proverbs 2:1-7; Psalm 1:1-3) ... Through what? Via the Word!
 - d. The Motivation
 - i. *BECAUSE OF WHO WE ARE* (cf. 2 Cor 5:17-21; 6:14-7:1; Col 3:12-17; Phil 2:12-13; Romans 6:19-22)
 - ii. *BECAUSE OF WHO WE SHALL BE* (cf. 1 John 3:2-5; 2 Peter 3:10-12; Philippians 3:8-14)
3. P_____ SANCTIFICATION (v. 12; 1 Cor 15:35-58; Eph 1:4; Col 1:21-23; Acts 20:32; 26:18; 1 Thess 3:12-13)

... Ultimately experiencing the Final Transformation into the Image and Likeness of God ... and dwelling in His Presence forever!

III. YOUR INHERITANCE (v. 20-21)

A. Your Heavenly C_____ (v. 20)

1. OUR ADOPTION (cf. Galatians 4:1-7; Romans 8:14-17; Ephesians 1:3-6)
2. OUR ASSURANCE
 - a. The S_____ of the Holy Spirit (cf. Ephesians 1:11-14; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; 5:1-8)
 - b. The T_____ of Christ (cf. John 14:1-3; Matt 6:19-21; 25:31-46; John 10:27-30)
 - c. The D_____ of Scripture (cf. Romans 8:28-39; 1 Peter 1:3-5; 1 John 4:4; 5:4-5)

B. Your Heavenly B_____ (v. 21; 1 Thess 4:13-17; 1 Cor 15:35-58; 2 Cor 5:1-4; Job 19:25-27)

INTROSPECTION

- * Where will you go if you were to die today?
- * If God were to ask you why He should allow you into His heaven, what would your answer be?
- * Where are you in the "perfection" process? Are you desiring to be holy as He is holy?
- * Where, or to whom, is ultimate allegiance? Are you primarily a citizen of heaven, or of earth?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * How does your "citizenship in heaven" affect your decisions on the earth? Will your heavenly citizenship have any affect upon the exercise of your rights as a U.S. citizen (or some other country)? What affects should it have?