

## What does it mean that we are joint-heirs with Christ?

**Romans 8:15-18** *For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*

To be an **heir** means to be in line to inherit something of value. Inheritance as a concept is something a parent leaves to a child, and the Bible is clear about what a good man does in leaving resources to his offspring. We can call ourselves children of God, and we've read earlier that we are blessed to be joint-heirs with His only begotten Son. All joint-heirs are also children.

**Proverbs 13:22** *A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.*

*We are children of God: Galatians 3:24-28, Romans 9:22-26, 1 John 3:1-3*

So we're children of God. What is our inheritance? Our inheritance is **preserved** and we are too.

**1 Peter 1:3-5** *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an **inheritance** incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

**Colossians 1:9-17** *For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the **inheritance** of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.*

We read earlier that we will suffer some, too. This same inheritance could be a **motivator**, especially for people who seek to serve the brethren who are in the body of Christ.

***Colossians 3:22-24** Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God; And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.*