

Joint Heirs With Christ

Colossians 1:1-14 (NKJV)

A. Introduction

1. Humanity longs for an inheritance.
2. People work hard to leave something behind.
3. Families often treasure earthly inheritances. Yet earthly inheritances fade away.
4. Paul reminds believers that they already possess a secure heavenly inheritance.
5. Every child of God is spiritually rich in Christ.
6. We are the people who share an inheritance that is eternal, secure, & glorious.

B. The Identity of Believers

1. Every true believer has a new identity in Christ, set apart for God's purposes.
2. Paul calls the believers as "saints and faithful brethren." We are Saints in Christ.
3. Believers are joined together through Christ, being united in Christ
4. All Christians share equally in God's promises & are recipients of Grace & Peace
5. Grace is the source of salvation. God's undeserved favour.
6. Real peace is found only through Christ, as a result of being reconciled to God.

C. The Marks Of A Healthy Church

1. A Church Known for Faith
2. Paul heard of their "faith in Christ Jesus."
3. True saving faith rests completely in Jesus Christ and His finished work.
4. A Church Marked by Love. Love is evidence of spiritual life.
5. They showed "love to all the saints." Genuine Christianity produces love for all.
6. A Church Motivated by Hope. Their hope was "laid up...in heaven."
7. Earthly things fade, but heavenly hope endures.
8. Christians live with eternity in view, with an eternal expectation.
9. Earth cannot destroy what heaven secures.
10. A Church Bearing Fruit The gospel was bringing forth fruit throughout the world.
11. The true gospel always produces change, & is the evidence of spiritual health.
12. Growth is evidence of life. Sound teaching matters.
13. The church must remain grounded in biblical truth.

D. Paul Then Prays for Spiritual Growth (vv. 9–12)

1. He starts with a prayer for spiritual knowledge & spiritual understanding.
2. Paul desired they be filled with the knowledge of God's will & with wisdom.
3. Spiritual maturity prepares believers for faithful living.

E. A Prayer for a Worthy Walk (v. 10)

1. Spiritual knowledge should lead to spiritual living.
2. Christians are called to walk worthy of the Lord, bear fruit & grow in knowledge
3. Those destined for heaven should live differently on earth.
4. A worthy walk includes obedience, fruitfulness & spiritual growth.
5. Salvation changes conduct, so we bear fruit that reflects Christ.

F. A Prayer for Spiritual Strength (v. 11)

1. Believers need God's strength daily; we can't live in human strength alone.
2. Paul emphasizes endurance, patience, & joyful perseverance
3. God empowers His people to continue faithfully.

G. A Prayer Filled with Thanksgiving (v. 12)

1. Believers are qualified by God's grace, so we should live with continual gratitude.
2. Celebrating the glory of our salvation that is not earned but received.
3. God "made us meet" — fit or qualified — for the inheritance.
4. We could never earn this standing ourselves.
5. Christ alone makes sinners worthy to enter God's kingdom.

H. The Great Salvation Transfer

1. God has rescued believers from the power of darkness.
2. Paul describes salvation as a spiritual rescue mission.
3. From the darkness of Satan's dominion, we are transferred into Christ's kingdom
4. Our citizenship is ultimately heavenly, & Christ reigns over His redeemed people.
5. Redemption means being purchased and set free.
6. Christ paid the price through His sacrifice.
7. Forgiveness is complete in Him.
8. Believers now belong to another kingdom.
9. Christ reigns over His redeemed people.
10. Heaven is already their true citizenship.
11. We are redeemed through His Blood (v. 14)

I. Conclusion

1. The Christian Life has us Saved by grace, Growing in truth, Bearing spiritual fruit, Living with hope, Strengthened by God
2. Is your faith rooted in Christ? Are you growing spiritually? Bearing fruit?
3. Are you walking in gratitude for salvation?
4. God not only saves His people—He continues to strengthen and mature them.
5. The Christian life begins with grace and continues through the power of Christ.
6. What an inheritance believers possess
 - a. Forgiveness instead of guilt
 - b. Light instead of darkness
 - c. Christ's kingdom instead of Satan's bondage
 - d. Eternal riches instead of fading earthly treasures
7. Have you become part of God's family through Christ?
8. Are you living like an heir of heaven? Is your life marked by faith, love, & hope?
9. But every believer in Christ is an heir with the saints.
10. Our inheritance is reserved in heaven and secured forever through Jesus Christ.
11. Everything on earth eventually fades; possessions decay, wealth disappears, & earthly inheritances are lost.
12. But the inheritance God gives in Christ is eternal, secure, undefiled, & reserved forever for His people.