

The Witness of the Spirit - Part I

Romans 8: 14-17

I. The Holy Spirit indwells every believer in order to form Christ in us (8:14).

- A. The Holy Spirit enables us to put to death the sinful deeds of the body.
- B. The Holy Spirit makes us God's reconciled children by adoption.

II. The Holy Spirit has replaced fear with freedom in our relationship to God (8:15-16).

- A. The Holy Spirit gives us a sonship. We now have boldness to approach God as our Father.
- B. We have received the witness of the Spirit in our prayers.
- C. The Holy Spirit makes Jesus Christ real to our hearts. He confirms our sonship (1 Jn. 3:24; Gal. 4:6).

III. The Holy Spirit is the firstfruits of our inheritance (8:17).

- A. The Holy Spirit assures us that we are recipients of all spiritual blessings.

- Becoming children means family privileges. Adoption results in freedom from the bondage of fear, family relationship, and future benefits.
 - The Lord Jesus Christ is the heir of all things (Heb. 1:2).
 - The believer receives heirship through adoption as sons.
 - Heirship results in participation in Christ's inheritance.
 - Our heirship is eternally secure (1 Pet. 1:4-5).
 - Our heirship is guaranteed by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit (Eph. 1:14).
 - Heirship comes to us through our election in Christ (Eph. 1:11; Heb. 9:15).
- B. Part of our heirship is suffering with Jesus Christ.
- The world hates Jesus Christ (Jn. 15:18, 19; Acts 9:4, 5).
 - We share in His suffering (not His suffering for sin on the cross) because of sin.

How should we then live?