

Excuse Me, Who Are You? (Once Again)
Romans 8:12-17

I. **Guaranteed: Everyone WILL Get What's Coming to Them**

A. **Guarantee**

1. Do you like a good, credible guarantee?
 - a. A guarantee is an affirmation of certainty.
 - (1) A declaration that something will perform the way it is supposed to,
 - (2) A promise that our expectations will be met,
 - (3) A binding agreement that our experience with someone or something will not disappoint us.
 - b. Examples
 - (1) Buy a car, guaranteed to perform flawlessly
 - (2) Buy a house, you guarantee payment of loan
2. Guaranteed:
 - a. You are going to get what's coming to you.
 - b. **Every human being ever born in all of time past, present, and future is going to get what's coming to them.**

B. **Guaranteed**

1. When your life here on earth is over and you stand before your Creator you will get what's coming to you.
2. Two Outcomes
 - a. Justice and wrath (Romans 1-4)
 - b. Grace and glory
3. **What you get depends on who you are.**
 - a. Justified
 - (1) Put your faith in Christ
 - (2) Solely rest in the grace of God for forgiveness and mercy
 - (3) **2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.**
 - (a) Once separate from Christ and without hope in the world
 - (b) Through grace alone by faith alone in Christ alone God makes us a new creation
 - (c) We who were once sinners and subject to guaranteed justice and condemnation and wrath are made new!
 - (d) We become a "new who!"
 - b. Who are you in Christ?
 - (1) We are debtors to grace.
 - (2) We are obligated to self-denial and God-indulgence.
 - (3) We are God-grasped sons and daughters
 - (4) We are adopted children
 - (a) No longer children of the evil one destined to follow him into the eternal lake of fire

- (b) We are adopted by God in and through Christ as His own cherished, beloved, desired child
- (5) **If we are children of God, then we are also heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.**
 - (a) **Romans 8:17 (ESV) *and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.***
 - (b) Guaranteed!
 - i) God sent His only Son, Jesus, into the world to live and die on your behalf for your benefit
 - a) God in love assigned Jesus the task to live the life of faith and obedience you were created to live but cannot.
 - b) God in love assigned Jesus the task of suffering and death, dying the death your sin deserves.
 - c) God, of His own mind, own heart, own will made a way at His own cost for you to become not only a new person but a child of His and an heir of His.
 - ii) Guaranteed!

II. **Guaranteed Inheritance** (Clues)

A. **The World**

1. **Romans 4:13 (ESV) *For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.***
 - a. Those who share the faith of Abraham are fellow heirs with Abraham
 - b. Those who share Abraham's faith in God share the inheritance of Abraham, which Paul says is "the world."
2. **Romans 8:17 (ESV) *and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.***
 - a. Through faith in Christ we are heirs of God
 - b. If you are an heir of God, then you will inherit what is God's.
 - c. And God owns the world.
 - (1) **Psalm 24:1 (ESV) *The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,***
 - (a) If the earth and everything in it are the God's
 - (b) Then the heirs of God will inherit the earth and everything in it
 - (2) **Psalm 2:8 (ESV) *Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.***
 - (a) If by faith in Christ we are joint heirs with Jesus then those who live in faith in Christ will inherit with Him what He inherits

- (b) God guarantees His Son that He will inherit the nations
 - (c) Since we are fellow heirs with Christ through faith in Christ, we too will inherit the nations
3. **1 Corinthians 3:21-23 (ESV)** ²¹ *So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours,* ²² *whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours,* ²³ *and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.*
- a. "All things are yours"
 - b. Everything that exists will serve your joy
 - (1) Positive things
 - (2) Negative things (death)
 - c. God does not merely defeat the enemies of your joy, He turns them into servants of your everlasting joy.

B. God Himself

- 1. **Romans 8:17 (ESV)** *and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.*
- 2. Heirs of God
 - a. Heirs of what God possesses
 - b. Heirs of God Himself
 - (1) **Romans 5:2 (ESV)** *Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*
 - (2) The hope of the glory of God
 - (a) The great joy of our hope is that one day we will see and savor the glory of God himself.
 - (b) Not the gifts of God alone but in God Himself.
- 3. **Revelation 21:3 (ESV)** *And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.*

 - a. This is our great hope: God Himself,
 - (1) in all His glory, in all His perfection
 - (2) Without obstacle or obstruction or hindrance
 - (3) In all His goodness and love and peace and mercy and wonder and glory and majesty and grace and healing and power and joy.
 - b. Not merely to see Him from afar but to know Him as He is up close and personal, forever.

- 4. Do you see how precious God intends to be to you?
 - a. Do you see, in this guarantee inheritance,
 - (1) how merciful and kind and wondrous He is to you?
 - (2) How worthy of your love and devotion?
 - b. Do you see in this guarantee of God a reason to treasure His saving grace and all He has done and will do to bring you to Himself?
 - c. If you love what God has done for you, how much more should we love and delight in the One who has done all this for us!

- d. God himself is our portion.
 - (1) We were made for him.
 - (2) And all the good things that he has made for us are meant to reveal more of him and send our hearts reaching for and rejoicing in God.

C. Redeemed and Glorified Bodies

- 1. **Romans 8:17 (ESV) *and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.***
 - a. Take careful note:
 - (1) Our inheritance comes through suffering
 - (2) Includes glorification
 - b. Piper - “If we are to enjoy the world and all that is in it, and if all these good things are not to compete with God and become idols, then we must have bodies capable of deeper, higher, fuller joys than we presently have.”
- 2. **Romans 8:22-23 (ESV) ²² *For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.***
 - a. That “redemption of our bodies” means that we will have, in eternity, glorified bodies
 - b. Bodies not only able to exist in the presence of unshielded glory, but enough like God to enjoy Him and all His gifts the way He does.
 - (1) Our joy will be full
 - (2) His glory will be central

III. Excuse me, who are you?

A. If you have put your faith in Christ

- 1. You are a debtor to grace
- 2. You are obligated to self-denial and God-indulgence
- 3. You are Spirit led
- 4. You are an adopted child
- 5. You are heir to a glorious and wonderful guaranteed inheritance.

B. If you have not put your faith in Christ and trusted God’s forgiving mercy, you too have a guaranteed inheritance, an inheritance of justice and condemnation and wrath.

- 1. Gain a new you, a new relationship with God, a new future and a new hope.
- 2. Put your faith in Christ today.