

"The Doctrine of Glorification"

Romans 8:14-8:39

Part 2

Introduction: Last week in our study of Romans we stepped into Romans 8:14 and it is in this verse that we began a look at a new Doctrine. From Romans 8:14-39 we shall see the Doctrine of Glorification which deals with the believer's glorious future. This entire chapter is hinged upon the very first verse.

Notice Romans 8:1

Here in this verse Paul makes a very profound statement and he uses the remaining part of the chapter to show his readers why there is "NO CONDEMNATION TO THEM WHO ARE IN CHRIST JESUS". Last week we looked at a list of reason which Paul has given to us so far.

1. **He frees us from the law of sin and death.** - Romans 8:2-3
2. **He fulfills the Law IN us.** - Romans 8:4
3. **He changes us from the inside out.** - Romans 8:5-11
4. **He empowers us to have victory over the flesh.** - Romans 8:12-13

Then there is the 5th point which we started into last week.

5. **He confirms our position in the family of God.** - Romans 8:14-16

Now, let me remind you that we are looking at the Doctrine of Glorification which tells of our glorious future. This glorious future that we have is based upon what happened the moment that we were saved, and the work of the Spirit at that time, and we see this in verses 14-16.

I. The Explanation of Glorification

Part 2

Romans 8:14-27

Notice Romans 8:14

At the moment of salvation, we are given the Holy Spirit.

Notice Romans 8:9

There is no "second work of grace" and no "second blessing" as some teach.

Ephesians 1:3

³ *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:*

We were given ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS at the moment of salvation.

Getting back to Romans again, we see that the Spirit leads all who are the sons of God. Last week we looked at how this verse is connected to the previous verse and the idea here is that the Holy Spirit leads us to mortify the deeds of the body. We looked at how the Holy Spirit makes us sensitive to sin and so He will lead us CONTINUALLY (present tense) to mortify the deeds of the body/flesh.

Notice Romans 8:15

Here Paul reaches back to our past and reminds us that there was a day when we lived in fear and we were in bondage to that fear. We were fearful of God and the consequences of sin. We had a weight of guilt that weighed heavy upon our consciences. We could make ourselves busy with the activities of the world but deep down inside there was a tormenting guilt and a fear of standing before God and answering for our deeds/sin.

But when we were saved, we were freed from the guilt and the fear. We have been brought into such a close relationship with God that we cry, "ABBA FATHER" and the word "ABBA" is an intimate term that could be translated "DADDY" or "PAPA". Let me show you a few other verses that will help us to see this.

Hebrews 10:22

²² *Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*

Now because our conscience is clear, and we have been brought into a close relationship with our Heavenly Father we can run right into His presence.

Hebrews 4:16

¹⁶ *Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*

But there is more. There was something else which happened at the moment of salvation.

Notice Romans 8:15 again.

The Holy Spirit here is referred to as the Spirit of Adoption. We are adopted by the Spirit. But this is not adoption as we think of adoption. We were born again into the family of God when we trusted in Jesus Christ and then we were "ADOPTED". The word "ADOPTED" means "son placing". The idea here is that when we were born again, we became children of God but then the Holy Spirit placed us as full-grown sons into the family of God. The "adoption" spoken of here in this verse does not refer to salvation, but it refers to "son placing". We now stand as full-grown sons in the family of God.

Now I want to raise 2 questions that I would have if I were listening to this study, "Why are we all placed as sons and not just children? Why not sons and daughters?" We will answer these questions as we move on.

Notice Romans 6:16

Not only does the Holy Spirit place us as sons in the family of God but He also bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God. There is much for us to consider within this verse.

1. The word "children".

The word "children" here refers to "born ones". The idea is we are children of God by nature. In other words, we are literally born of God and we now have His nature.

Romans 8:5-6

⁵ For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; **but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.**

⁶ For to be carnally minded is death; but **to be spiritually minded is life and peace.**

Before salvation we had the Adamic nature, which is the sin nature which resulted in the law of sin and death controlling us. But now we are born of God and so we have a Divine nature. That is why we mind the things of the Spirit. Just as we have characteristics of our earthly parents so now, we have the nature of God which is what changes our lives after we are saved. Now let me take this thought further with the next point.

2. The Spirit bears witness WITH not TO our spirit.

I point this out because our salvation is not based upon some "spiritual experience". It is the Word of God that confirms our salvation not some "spiritual experience". So called, "spiritual experiences" can be very deceiving. Satan is able to counterfeit many experiences, so we do not build our theology upon experience, but we build it upon the Truth of God's Word.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

¹³ For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

¹⁴ And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

¹⁵ Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

There are many people who take their theology from experiences and their experiences are contrary to the Word of God. When confronted with the Scriptures to show them their theology is contrary to the Bible, they will often choose to attempt to explain away the Bible or they will simply choose the experience over Truth. This is, by the way, a recipe for disaster.

N let me get you back to our verse,

Notice Romans 8:16 again.

What does Paul mean when he says the Spirit bears witness with our spirit? We must look at this verse in context with what is being said in the previous verses. This verse can be seen as a summation of verses 14-15. The word "beareth" here is in the present tense which means it is a constant action. The witness of the Holy Spirit to our spirit is the constant chastening and conviction of the Holy Spirit every time we sin for, He will not permit us to get away with sin.

Let me show you what David experienced after his sins of adultery and murder before he confessed his sin.

Psalm 32:1-4

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

² *Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.*

³ *When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.*

⁴ *For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.*

David was a miserable man. He groaned within under the conviction. God's hand of displeasure was heavy upon him and his strength drained away like the moisture of summer under the blazing sun. The conviction of the Spirit was crushing David every single day.

That is the idea here in our text. The Spirit bears witness with our spirit through conviction and chastening and by this we know that we are the children of God. Again, I remind you that this is a constant, ever present witness of the Spirit with our spirit.

Hebrews 12:6-8

⁶ *For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.*

⁷ *If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?*

⁸ *But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.*

So, from all of this we see that we are not under condemnation because the Spirit confirms our place in the family of God and God will never condemn His children. Now let us notice the 6th point concerning why there is no condemnation to the believer.

6. The Spirit Guarantees our Glorification.

Notice Romans 8:17a

Here we find the answer to the two questions that we previously raised. "Why are we all placed as sons and not just children? Why not sons and daughters?" It is SONS who are the heirs of the Father's inheritance. So, to be sure we all get the inheritance we are placed as sons. Let us notice the verse again.

Notice Romans 8:17a

The word "IF" here is not a word of doubt. In others words it is not a question as to whether we are children of God or not. That has just been proved in the prior verses. The word can also be translated "SINCE". Since we are the children of God, we are also heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. There are many other verses in the Bible that confirm this Truth.

Galatians 4:7

⁷ *Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.*

Colossians 1:12

¹² *Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:*

James 2:5

⁵ *Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?*

Hebrews 1:13-14

¹³ *But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?*

¹⁴ *Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*

Revelation 21:7

⁷ *He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.*

Notice the words of Newell on this verse:

"I could not have the presumption-to write these words if they were not in God's holy Book. That a guilty, lost, wretched child of Adam the First should have written of him, a joint-heir with Christ, the Eternal Maker of all things, the Well-beloved of the Father, the Righteous One, the Prince of life--only God the God of all grace could prepare such a destiny for such a creature. And, we may humbly say, perhaps, that God could only do this by joining us in eternal union with His beloved Son, as the Last Adam, the Second Man; having released us from Adam the First and all his connections, at the cross, and having placed us in Christ Risen, in all the boundless and everlasting rights of His dear Son, whom He has "appointed heir of all things!" Ages after ages of ever-increasing blessing forever and forever and forever, lie in prospect for believers--for the joint-heirs!!"

We may not have much here in this life but if you have been born again into the family of God you are rich. Not rich in material blessings but rich in spiritual blessings and you are an heir of God and a joint heir with Jesus Christ. This means that you will inherit all of heaven for all of heaven will belong to Jesus Christ and so it will belong to you. There is an inheritance that awaits you in eternity that is beyond what our words can begin to describe, and it is reserved there for you.

1 Peter 1:3-4

³ *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,*

⁴ *To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.*

Now let me give you something else to consider. Paul is writing to the Roman believers and so he has in his mind Roman practices concerning adoption. When someone was adopted under Roman Law the adopted person was in no way inferior to any of the other children. If he was adopted one day and the father died the next, he still received the same amount of inheritance that the oldest child would get.

That means that we are in no way inferior when it comes to adoption. We will receive the same amount of inheritance as the greatest saint which we can think of. The inheritance will be equal for all. Notice the words of Vincent:

"Roman law made all children including adopted ones, equal inheritors. Jewish law gave a double portion to the eldest son. The Roman law was naturally in Paul's mind, and suits the context, where adoption is the basis of inheritance."

Conclusion:

God has made great provisions for us who are His children. This should be an incentive for us to live a life separated unto Him and live a life controlled by the Spirit. Someday we will inherit everything in eternity. The riches which await you and I are far beyond what we can get our minds wrapped around.

Ephesians 1:18

*¹⁸ The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, **and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance** in the saints,*