

“Responding to the Spirit’s Ministry”

Text: Romans 8:16-17

Scripture reading: I Corinthians 2

I. The believer’s debt - vv. 12-13

II. The believer’s adoption – vv. 14-15

III. The believer’s inheritance – vv. 16-17

A) The Spirit’s testimony – vs. 16 (Phil. 1:29; I Cor. 2:10, 12; Jn. 14-15; Eph. 1:13-14)

B) The children’s estate – vs. 17a-b (I Jn. 3:2)

1. “Heirs of God”

(Jn. 17:5; Ps. 73:23-25)

2. “Fellow heirs with Christ” (Jn. 10:14-15, 29-30; Rm. 8:31, 39; Heb. 2:10-12)

C) The family’s suffering – vs. 17c (I Pet. 4:12-13)

Conclusion:

1) The Spirit testifies to our spirit _____.

2) The “preeminent inheritance” for believers _____.

3) Our union with Christ shares in _____.

“To suffer as a Christian is to suffer for Christ: for the name of Christ, for the truth of Christ, for the ways of Christ, for the worship of Christ.” -John Owen; 1616-1683 English Puritan

SERMON QUOTES:

III. The believer's inheritance

A) The Spirit's testimony

Robert Haldane,

"This witnessing of the Spirit, to the believer's spirit, communicating consolation, is never His first work, but it consequent on His other work of renovation. He first gives faith, and then seals."

B) The children's estate

1. "Heirs of God"

John Murray,

"Heirs of God can involve nothing less than that the sons of God are heirs of the inheritance which God Himself has laid up for them. But it is difficult to suppress the richer and deeper thought that God Himself is the inheritance of His children."

"The reward of Christ was preeminently that He was glorified with the Father; and the Lord was the portion of His inheritance."