

Who's Managing Your Retirement Account?

Paul Before Agrippa: Part 4

Acts 26:13-23

August 6, 2023

Acts 26:18 to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.' *This verse is the purpose statement for the conversion of the Apostle Paul, the man who would write 13 of the 27 NT books.*

In this verse, forgiveness, inheritance, and sanctification are used in the context of eternal salvation. However, upon closer consideration, each of these concepts also has an ongoing sense in the life of the believer.

“Once for all” sense for the new believer:

Inheritance—as a gift

1 Peter 1:3,4 an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

Hebrews 9:15 the promise of the eternal inheritance
The eternal inheritance consists of, among other things, life (1 John 5:11,12), a predestination of conformity to the image of His Son (Romans 8:29), and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit as a down payment (Ephesians 1:13,14).

“Ongoing sense” for the life of the believer:

Inheritance—as a reward

Mark 10:35-37 This request by James and John didn't come out of left field. They knew that Jesus would one day sit on

His throne and rule over the earth, and they wanted a part in that rule.

Psalm 2:7-9 Rulership over the nations was granted to the Son by the Father, by asking.

Revelation 2:18-27 That same rulership is promised by Jesus to the church at Thyatira to those believers who would hold fast to following Him, despite massive social pressure to do otherwise.

Revelation 3:19-22 To the Laodiceans who would judge themselves and repent and accept the fellowship of Jesus, he promises them a co-rulership with Him: “I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne.”

Romans 8:16-18 **Heirs of God** by reason of our new birth; **fellow heirs with Christ** if we suffer with Him. *We can share in the double-portion of the First-born Son if we live a life dying to ourselves and living for Him.*

2 Timothy 2:11 It is a trustworthy statement:

For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; *[our new birth that makes us an heir of God]*

12 If we endure, we will also reign with Him; *[our life of suffering with Him]*

If we deny Him, He also will deny us; *[He denies us co-heirship at the judgment seat of Christ; see 1 Corinthians 3:11-15]*

13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself. *[Even if a person who once believed, later renounces, that person still has eternal life because eternal life is a gift from God by faith in Jesus Christ, and its durability is a function of the Savior, not a function of the individual believer.]*

Part of our eternal inheritance as heirs of God by virtue of our Justification (Adapted from *Thirty-Four Things*, Lewis Sperry Chafer, circa 1968):

Reconciliation—2 Cor 5:18,19; Col 1:20

Redemption—Col 1:14; Rom 3:24

Freed from condemnation—Rom 8:1; John 5:24

Propitiation for our sins—1 John 2:2; Rom 3:24-26

Freedom from the Law—Rom 7:6

New birth—John 3:7; John 1:12,13

Made alive—Eph 2:1-5; Col 2:13

Sons of God—1 John 3:2; Gal 3:26

New creation—2 Cor 5:17; Eph 2:10

Adopted by God—Rom 8:15,23

Sanctified unto God—1 Cor 6:11

Justified—Rom 5:1; 1 Cor 6:11

Sins forgiven—Col 1:14, Eph 4:32

Delivered from power of darkness—Col 1:13

Transferred into the Kingdom—Col 1:13

Made priests—1 Pet 2:5,9

Access to throne of God—Eph 2:18; Heb 4:14-16

Placed in God's household—Eph 2:19; Gal 3:26, 6:10

Children of light—Eph 5:8; 1 Thes 5:4,5

Sheep in the flock—John 10:27-29

Bride of Christ—Eph 5:25-27

Holy Spirit—1 Cor 2:12

Glorification—Rom 8:30