

A Definition of Inheritance

- Inheritance in the NT refers to the blessing from God for which you have been saved.
- This blessing package encompasses all that God is free to do for you on the basis of the finished work of Christ on the Cross, including
 - the possession of eternal life,
 - the indwelling of God the Spirit,
 - the resultant assets you have for obeying God's commands,
 - the successes you will enjoy from using those assets
 - the resurrection body,
 - and the eternal rewards you stand to receive at the Judgment Seat of Christ, including delegated authority in the Kingdom.

Categories of Inheritance

1. Apparently structure in a line in

- Regeneration
- Imputed Rightson
- Hrustrations, Ptack Peliboxhe Spirit

- 2. However other portions of the inheritance package seem to be conditional blessings that we may or may not receive, for example:
 - Abundant experience of eternal life now, Jn 10:10
 - Rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ, 2 Cor 5:10
 - "Inheriting the Kingdom of God"
 - "Inheriting eternal life"
 - Glorification of God through obedience, Rom 8:18,
 Eph 1:12
 - Being a partaker in the sufferings of Christ, Acts 5:41, 9:16, 1 Pet 4:16
 - Experience of the filling of the Spirit with resultant fruit of the Spirit, Eph 5:18-6:9, Gal 5:16, 22-26

Continuing Study of Inheritance

- Nomenclature in the NT for inheritance:
- Noun: klhronomia kleronomia
- Verb: klhronomew kleronomew

Continuing with Paul's Epistles

1 Cor 6:9-10

Or do you not understand that Responsibility to KNOW the unrighteous the Kingdom of God will not (in the future) inherit?!

Do not be misled;

Responsibility to KNOW

Neither fornicators nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor the "female" partners in homosexual encounters, nor the "male" partners in homosexual encounters, nor thieves, nor greedy persons;

not <u>drunkards</u>, not <u>the verbally abusive</u>, not <u>conmen</u> the Kingdom of God will (in the future) inherit.

Categories of Sin Stop Inheritance

- Context: 1 Cor 6, to believers as a warning.
- The Corinthian problem is believers who do not act like it. They are double-minded.
- The pattern of the fleshly life that characterized them before their faith was describing them *after* they had become believers.
- 1 Cor 6 exhorts the Corinthians and us to "glorify God in your body" as opposed to walking after the old pattern of the flesh.

1 Cor 15:50

• ⁵⁰ Τοῦτο δέ φημι, ἀδελφοί, ὅτι σὰρξ καὶ αἷμα βασιλείαν θεοῦ κληρονομῆσαι οὐ δύνανται, οὐδὲ ἡ φθορὰ τὴν ἀφθαρσίαν κληρονομεῖ.

• Now this I declare, brothers, that flesh and blood the Kingdom of God to inherit (aor act inf) is not able (pres mid ind); neither the corruption the incorruption inherits (pres act ind).

What Does This Verse Mean?

- Context: Answer to the question, "How are the dead raised? And with what kind of body do they come?" 15:35
- Initial Answer: "YOU FOOL!"
- Analogy #1: Sowing grain, vv36-38—GOD GIVES the body to the seed.
- Analogy #2: **Different** kinds of bodies in God's <u>earthly</u> <u>creation</u>: v39—GOD GAVE these different bodies.
- Analogy #3: <u>Heavenly vs. earthly "bodies"</u>: v40—GOD MADE each of these kinds with its own glory according to His creative design.
- Analogy #4: <u>Heavenly vs. Heavenly bodies</u>: v41—God's creation of different heavenly bodies with different glories

Analogies and their Teaching

• vv36-38: Sowing Grain

- Death to the seed means life for the plant that comes from it.
- God makes this happen miraculously

- V39: Different kinds of earthly bodies
- Introduces the theme of DISTINCTION in KIND

• V40: Heavenly vs. Earthly bodies

 Theme of differences focuses on differences in GLORY—Different KIND, Different GLORY

• V41: Heavenly vs. Heavenly bodies

 Same KIND, different GLORY

Summary of the Resurrection

- 1. God does it miraculously, so if you do not believe in miracles or God's intervention into time and space, you will have trouble believing in the Resurrection.
- 2. Death is necessary for resurrection, at least in the world of seeds. Think of our lifecycle as the lifecycle of a plant: death must take place for the body of the seed in order for the newer and better body of the plant to grow.

- 3. A resurrection body is a different kind of body from the present body—though it is the *same* body. Think "upgrade."
- 4. Every "heavenly" or Resurrection body will have the same KIND of glory, and that glory will differ from the glory of the present earthly body.
- 5. However, every Resurrection body will differ in the intensity or extent of their glory from the others, like stars and planets differ in brilliance in the sky.
 - Interesting idea: The difference in perceived brightness among the stars is based on how close they are to us.

Result of the Analogies: vv42-48

"So also is the resurrection of the dead." v42

- SOWN corruptible body, RAISED incorruptible—v42
- SOWN in dishonor, RAISED in honor/glory—v43
- SOWN in weakness, RAISED in power—v43
- SOWN in a soulish body, raised in a spiritual body—v44-49.
 - Explanation of "KIND": If there is a SOULISH body, there is a SPIRITUAL body, v44b
 - Correct Cause-Effect: Adam → LIVING SOUL; Christ
 → LIFE-MAKING SPIRIT v45; Jn 5:21, 6:57, Rom 8:2
 - Correct order: soulish first, spiritual last v46
 - Correct correlation of order with difference in "kind":
 first→soulish→earthy; 2nd→spiritual→heavenly, v47
 - Correct correspondence of kind to material: Each a product of his composition: "earthy" vs. heavenly, v48
 - Continued purpose--GLORY: image-bearing, 49

V49: Different in Kind→Different in Kind of GLORY

Just as

We have borne the EIKON of the EARTHY (CHOIKOS)

so also

We will bear the EIKON of the HEAVENLY

v50

Now this I declare, brothers,

that flesh and blood the Kingdom of God to inherit (aor act. infin) is not able (pres pass indicative);

neither the corruption the incorruption inherits (present act ind).

About the Resurrection Body and Inheritance

- 1. There is a resurrection body that God will miraculously create, so do not overly concern yourself with the disposition of your corpse.
- 2. The resurrection body is not earthly but heavenly.
- 3. This means that whatever heaven is like, the heavenly or resurrection body is suited to it.
- 4. Yet the resurrection body *comes from* this body—our body of corruption will be *renewed*, even as our immaterial soul has been renewed through regeneration.
- 5. Inheriting the Kingdom of God requires this resurrection body for matters of **protocol** and **practicality**.
- 6. The principle of **protocol** comes into focus: the kind of Kingdom we inherit requires the *right* kind of body.
- 7. The **practical** fact is that without an eternal body, we cannot have eternal possession.

Why Does Paul Mention The Doctrine of Resurrection?

- vv51-52: The mystery of "being changed" vs. "sleeping"
- vv53: **Explanation** of the Resurrection for those who WILL NOT DIE
- v54-55: When the Resurrection is complete, Is 25 will be fulfilled, which states that **God must defeat death itself**.
- v56: **The explanation** of the nature of this defeat—death is defeated by defeating sin
- v57: Jesus Christ has won that victory *already*
- v58: **THEREFORE**: Be steadfast = immovable with the result that you always abound in the work of the Lord because you know that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

Gal 4:30, 5:21

4:30 But what does the Scripture say?

"Cast out the bondwoman and her son,

For the son of the bondwoman shall not be an heir with the son of the free woman."

5:21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Heb 1:4, 14, 6:12, 12:17

1 Pet 3:9

Rev 21:7