

## *The Inheritance of a Christian*

[www.ncvchurch.com](http://www.ncvchurch.com)

**Introduction:** We must fight to keep the one hope alive in our everyday thoughts!

A. God has made us *for Him*. (**Ecc 3:11, Ps 42:1-2**)

1. The great battle we face in this life is to keep God before us.
2. Events such as the last two weeks brings *eternity and the uncertainty of life* into sharp focus.
3. What a blessing to see a faithful Christian *cross the finish line!*

B. If we will fill our minds with God's word then there are things that *will be before us at all times!* One of these is called the "one hope." (**Eph 4:4**)

1. The root meaning of hope is a "confident expectation."
2. This hope based on *the character of God* and the truth of the resurrection of Christ will change everything about how we view all things!
3. The most common words to express this is "heir" and "inheritance."

### ***I. We have an inheritance based upon the certain promises of God***

A. Consider the awesome truth that we are adopted sons of God! (**Rom 8:14-18**)

1. When we really believe this *we will change from a spirit of fear and bondage to one of glory and love*. What was it like to come home to a loving parent?
2. This is not an assumed position. It is based upon *the conditional promises of God!* The word of God becomes our foundation!
3. There are two witnesses, the Holy Spirit and our Spirit. How are these two witnesses for you and I?
4. There is a reason we give careful emphasis to the "one baptism!" (**Acts 2:38-39**)

B. My yielding to God's condition promises is an act of faith to receive a gracious free gift. (**Titus 3:4-7; Gal 3:26-29**)

1. I am given forgiveness of sins and the indwelling of God's Spirit. THINK!
2. If God is on my side then who can be against me? (**Rom 8:31**)
3. The blessing that come in this life are greater than all the riches in this world!

C. Can we trust what God has promised?

1. If He has given us a sure word then we can! (**Heb 6:17-18; Acts 20:30-31**)
2. The God who is alone holy cannot lie. He also has extended an unconditional love to you and me! This is greater than any earthly parent ever had for a child.
3. Remember, all of our knowledge of God and His promises depends upon our view of His word! (**2 Sam 22:31**)

### ***II. This inheritance cannot be adequately expressed in words***

A. The inheritance must be sought and engrained in our thoughts. God wants us to see the "exceeding greatness" of riches and power that are found here! (**Eph 1:18-21**)

1. What news of a great gift would excite us? Look at the universe and consider *what the creator of the universe* calls great!
2. The power over death is something we will think about as we live.

B. We are treated as “sons of God!” (**Gal 4:6-7**)

1. We are adopted sons and thus in God’s family! (**Rom 8:15**)
2. What kind of inheritance would one in the family of God have?

C. We are treated as “joint heirs with Christ.” This is mind-blowing! (**Rom 8:17**)

1. We equally share in the riches given to our Lord.
2. This glory that Jesus longed for He longs to share with us! (**Jn 17:5, 24**)
3. What can impress God? He has that very thing for us.

D. Any blessing we enjoy in this life from God is a fraction of what we will have!

1. This is what is meant by the guarantee or the “earnest” of the Spirit.  
**(Eph 1:11-14)**
2. Consider the earnest money in a real estate transaction.
3. What blessing do we have now? Forgiveness, sight, light, His providential care and so much more. These weighty things are just a feather compared to eternity.

### ***III. This inheritance gives us a glorious view of death***

A. Death is really a great thing for the Christian! (**Phil 1:23**)

1. The pain is for those that remain. What a blessing to die in the Lord.
2. Consider this quote from today’s article:

“Our friend Jody is passing into glory. He will soon see things our minds can only imagine. Angels will come to escort him into eternity and he will meet the Alpha and Omega. What a moment for Jody!”

3. What a joy to have a cloud of witnesses that have gone on before!

B. The evidence and certainty of the resurrection of Christ makes us long for heaven.  
**(1 Pt 1:3-5)**

1. Heaven is a place of no sin, death, decay or tears.
2. This hope keeps me in a life of faith. I need to renew this certainty.

C. This changes how I view all suffering! (**Rom 8:18**)

### ***IV. The daily renewal of our inheritance brings real purpose to our lives***

A. When we live by a continual faith we will always be taking risks and embracing the cost and suffering this may bring! We live a full life with purpose! (**Heb 11:7-8**)

1. It will change our marriage. (**1 Pt 3:7**)
2. It will change how we view brethren. (**Jas 2:5**)
3. It will change what satisfies us and makes us content. (**Heb 11:9-10**)
4. We will put the Lord’s things first with enthusiasm. (**Col 3:23-25; Heb 6:11-12**)

B. This seeking to be with God is the foundation to put away the works of the flesh.  
**(Gal 5:21; 1 Cor 6:9-10)**

1. This goes back to the flesh versus Spirit battle. Where is our heart taking us?
2. This inheritance makes the trinkets of Satan look very empty. Paul said they became like rubbish to him.
3. Will our family enjoy that inheritance together? (Old videos, happy and sad endings)

**Conclusion:** Have you seen the glory that God has for us? (**1 Jn 3:3**)