

Theme: Through Christ, believers are the heirs of all God's covenant blessings.

## I. Intro – Fighting over Inheritance

- A. People will fight over the inheritance rights!
- B. “Can you get me the ring – she promised it”
- C. Everyone wants God's blessing – who gets it?
- D. Key issue in Galatia

## II. Heirs of God – Seed of Abraham

- A. Abraham – A Key Figure in Galatia (v29)
  - 1. Everyone looks to and claims Abraham
  - 2. Abraham key figure in Galatians (3:6-9;16,18)
- B. Christians are the seed of Abraham
  - 1. Abraham's seed inherit blessing (3:16)
  - 2. Judaizers: Gentiles seed through Torah (3:18)
  - 3. Christ is true Seed of Abraham (3:16)
  - 4. Anyone “in Christ” now seed of Abraham (v29)
  - 5. Anyone “in Christ” receives Christ's blessing (26-29)
  - 6. Christ broke dividing walls (v26-29; esp 28)
    - a. Threefold distinction – Jewish blessing, others

b. Baptism given to all believers

c. Jesus removed all this (Rom 10:12-13; Eph 3:6; Col 3:11)

## III. Heirs of God – Mature Sons of God (4:1-7)

- A. The analogy of an heir still a minor (4:1-5)
  - 1. An heir – but like a slave! (v1-2)
  - 2. We (Jews?!) were like this – in slavery (v3)
  - 3. Jesus came to end this ‘slavery’ (vv4-5)
  - 4. Full rights now given to Jews – apart from law!
- B. Gentiles now adopted as God's sons through Christ (v6-7)
  - 1. Gentiles are God's adopted sons (4:6-7)
  - 2. We are sons through Christ (Gal 3:26-27; 4:6)
  - 3. We cry Abba – just like Jesus did (4:6; Rom 8:15; Mk 14:36)
- C. We are given the Spirit – the great blessing/gift
  - 1. Spirit given to sons (Gal 4:6; Rom 8:15-16)
  - 2. Fullness of Spirit in Messianic age (Acts 2:17-18)

## IV. Conclusion & Summary

- A. Do you see every blessing of God in Christ?
  - 1. He is the beloved of the Father
  - 2. He is the Seed of Abraham

3. He inherits **every** blessing God has
- B. We are heirs of God through Christ
1. We are “in Christ” – and He is in us!
  2. What is His is ours – joint heirs (Rom 8:17)
  3. Does not mean no problems – but provision!
  4. Family, work, finances, spiritual, emotional – every area!
- C. We have been given the Spirit – chief blessing!
1. We live in the age of fulfillment – not shadow!
  2. He has broken down walls, brings gifts to all!
  3. He empowers us to live for God!
- D. Communion – heirs through Christ!

### Heirs of God Through Christ

Galatians 3:26-4:7

March 6, 2005

Communion

Hebrews 13:20-21

12 For there is **no difference between Jew and Gentile**-- the same Lord is Lord of all and **richly blesses all who call on him**, 13 for, "**Everyone** who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Romans 10:12-13

6 This mystery is that **through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel**, members together of one body, and **sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus**.

Ephesians 3:6

11 Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Colossians 3:11

15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him **we cry, "Abba, Father."**

Romans 8:15

36 "**Abba, Father**," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

Mark 14:36

15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but **you received the Spirit of sonship**. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." 16 **The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children**.

Romans 8:15-16

17 In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. 18 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

Acts 2:17-18

17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs-- **heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ**, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Romans 8:17