

Theme: Believers have been given the Holy Spirit, Who gives us a first taste of the coming age and is a guarantee that all the blessings God has promised will be given to us.

I. Introduction – Anticipation

- A. Anticipation plays major role in life
- B. Theatrical trailers, new products
- C. God has given us ways to anticipate that age

II. Our New Life In Christ

- A. Believers have been placed in Christ (v13; Eph 1)
- B. In Christ by believing the Gospel (v13)
- C. Believers have been given the Spirit (v13)

III. The Spirit in the Now But Not Yet

- A. The Spirit seals (marks/protects) believers (v13)
 - 1. σφραγίζω – v13 - mark; protect
 - 2. Eph 4:30; 2Co 1:21-22
- B. The Spirit is a guarantee of our future inheritance
 - 1. ἄρραβών – earnest deposit; guarantee (v14)
 - 2. 2 Cor 1:22; 2 Cor 5:5
- C. The Spirit is the firstfruits of our full salvation

- 1. ἀπαρχήν – first installment guarantee (Rom 8:23)
- 2. Similar to ἄρραβών (earnest deposit) here

D. The Spirit is the agent of our adoption

- 1. υἱοθεσία – adoption as sons (Rom 8:15)
- 2. Gal 4:4-6 (similarities with Rom 8)
- 3. Rom 8:15, 23 – adoption: now and not yet

E. The Not Yet – Resurrection Day

- 1. Adoption – redemption of body (Rom 8:23)
- 2. Firstfruits – redemption of body (Rom 8:23)
- 3. Guarantee/deposit (Eph 1:14; 2 Cor 5:4-5)
- 4. Seal – Ephesians 4:30

IV. Living By the Spirit in Now But Not Yet

- A. Do we see the great gift Spirit gives in Christ?
 - 1. Marked, protected, adopted, guaranteed!
 - 2. All 'in Christ' – not special thing for few
 - 3. All brought to us by the Spirit – given to all
- B. Are you 'in Christ'?
 - 1. If not in Christ, opposite of above

2. Turn to Christ for life – now and eternity
- C. Do we respond to the Spirit's present work?
1. Are we thankful for these great gifts?
 2. Do we draw upon these present resources?
 3. Are we desiring and growing in holiness?
 - a. 1 John 3:2-3 – purifies himself
 - b. Titus 2:12-13 – godly life in present age
 - c. 2 Peter 3:13-14 - spotless, blameless, etc.
- D. Do we long for our future full salvation?
1. There is more to come!
 2. Do we groan (Rom 8; 2 Cor 5) for future?
- E. Communion – longing for the Final Supper!

Living By the Spirit in the Now But Not Yet

Ephesians 1:14-15

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Communion

Romans 15:13

30 And do not grieve the **Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.** Ephesians 4:30

21 Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He **anointed** us, 22 **set his seal of ownership on us**, and put his **Spirit** in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. 2 Corinthians 1:21-22

22 set his seal of ownership on us, and **put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.** 2 Corinthians 1:22

5 Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the **Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.** 2 Corinthians 5:5

23 Not only so, but we ourselves, **who have the firstfruits of the Spirit**, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. Romans 8:23

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."Rom8:15

4 But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, 5 to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full **rights of sons (literally 'adoption as sons')**. 6**Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts**, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." Galatians 4:4-6

Similarities in Galatians 4 and Romans 8

- Not slaves (Galatians 4:3,7; Romans 8:15)
- Adopted sons (Gal. 4:5-6; Romans 8:15-16)
- By Spirit (Gal. 4:6; Romans 8:15-16)
- Cry out 'Abba, Father' (Gal. 4:6; Romans 8:15)
- Heirs of God (Gal. 4:7; Romans 8:17)

Adoption – Now and Not Yet

15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but **you received the Spirit of sonship (literally 'adoption as sons')**. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." Romans 8:15

23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as **we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons**, the redemption of our bodies. Romans 8:23

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14 who is **a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession--** to the praise of his glory. Ephesians 1:14

4 For while we are still in this tent, we **groan**, being burdened--not that we would be unclothed, but **that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.** 5 He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us **the Spirit as a guarantee.** 2 Cor 5:4-5 (ESV)

30 And do not grieve the Holy **Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.** Ephesians 4:30

2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 3**Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.** 1 John 3:2-3

12 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to **live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age**, 13**while we wait for the blessed hope-- the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,** Titus 2:12-13

13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. 14 **So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.** 2 Peter 3:13-14