



JOINT-HEIRS WITH CHRIST

SCRIPTURAL LESSON: *Romans 8:9-17*

GOSPEL TRUTH:

As believers in Jesus Christ, we have been joined together with Him as heirs by immersion in water in the name of Jesus Christ (symbolizing His death, burial, and resurrection), and being filled with God's Holy Spirit, speaking in God's unknown tongue (*John 3:1-7*). "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." (*Galatians 3:26, 29*).

GOLDEN SCRIPTURE:

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together (Romans 8:17).

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH DOCTRINES:

1. The Lord Jesus Christ instructed the people saying, "For who soever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother" (*Matthew 12:50*).
2. Paul instructed Titus saying, "That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life" (*Titus 3:7*).
3. And by faith Noah, ". . . prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith" (*Hebrews 11:7*).
4. James advised all mankind, "Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?" (*James 2:5*).

5. Paul said to the Galatians, "Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ" (*Galatians 4:7*).

BACKGROUND SETTING:

The true mark of a born-again believer and genuine Christian is that he or she is indwelt by God's Holy Spirit. "And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness" (*Roman 8:10*). "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any many have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." (*Romans 8:9*) "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father" (*Romans 8:15*).

LESSON SUMMARY:

We become joint-heirs with Jesus Christ when we are baptized by immersion in His name, Jesus Christ. He is the Bridegroom and we are the Bride; the Body of Christ, His Church. Peter responded to Jesus Christ's question, "But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus then said to Peter, "And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." (*Matthew 16:15-16, 19*). And on the Day of Pentecost, Peter used the keys in his sermon to the Jews in Jerusalem saying, "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (*Acts 2:38; 4:12*).

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