

# **Joint Heirs**

**3-14-21**

Romans 8:17

We are joint heirs with Christ.

**This is one Greek word that means joint-heir, co-heir, or fellow-heir. Jesus as God's SON is heir to everything God owns. Therefore, owning everything, Jesus reigns as King. This goes along with many cultures; the family inheritance goes to the first-born son. Jesus was God's first-born Son, and everything goes to HIM. Humanly, we say Amen and bow the knee to Jesus. However, God is saying something different. God is saying we are joint heirs with Jesus. This means we own everything Jesus owns. We reign alongside of Jesus. We say one day we will go to heaven. God says, we will not only go to heaven, but we will also reign in heaven with Jesus.**

John 17:22 (ESV)

The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one.

**How are we qualified to reign like a king to reign like Jesus for all eternity?**

Colossians 1:12 (ESV)

Giving thanks to the Father, who has "qualified" you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

**God the Father qualified us when we trusted Jesus!**

Romans 8:16–17a (ESV)

<sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow (joint) heirs with Christ,

**In the first 15 verses of Chapter 8, God has told us how to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit. Now HE tells us we are joint heirs with Jesus and will reign with Jesus. With this majestic news, God tells us that we will also suffer in this world just as Jesus did in order to receive the glory Jesus received.**

Romans 8:17b (ESV)

(We are joint heirs) provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

**In the mystery of God, the suffering of his Son became the gateway to glory.** Therefore, believers and the church will also participate in Christ’s suffering and thus share in HIS glory. Suffering and glory are not presented as a theological dilemma, or in diametrical opposition, but suffering is in fact identification with Christ: they are HIS sufferings and HIS glory. Suffering is not a glitch in the divine purpose or a lapse on the part of believers. *Suffering is an unavoidable and necessary part of God’s purpose for Christ and his church.* The power of resurrection is known only through suffering. “No cross, no crown!” Both suffering and glory are our experience.

Philippians 3:10–11 (ESV)

<sup>10</sup> (Paul said his desire was) that I may know HIM and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> that by any means possible I may attain the (power of the) resurrection from the dead (while in the body).

**We suffer knowing that we will receive resurrection power. We suffer with HIM knowing we will also be glorified with HIM. The suffering is the indispensable prelude to the glory.**

2 Corinthians 4:16 (ESV)

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.

**When Paul is saying that the very afflictions and difficulties that wear down the ‘outer nature’ are the very means used by the Spirit of God to renew our inner being, until at last the outer nature disappears altogether and the inner being (the ‘new man’) is fully formed after the image of Christ.**

**Therefore, we rejoice in suffering for Christ because this refines our relationship with HIM causing us to depend on HIM more and more until we totally reflect HIM in every part of our life. Then, with the Holy Spirit flowing unhindered through our life, we behave like Jesus which allows HIM to powerfully work in us.**

## **We have a different perspective!**

Romans 8:18 (ESV)

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

**How unexpected and how breathtaking is the gracious provision of God! We will suffer now, but the glory we will receive will be incomparably greater than anything we suffer. Sharing Jesus' sufferings is not simply the cost of discipleship. There is a much greater aspect. Again, suffering is the prelude to partaking with HIM of the coming glory.**

1 Peter 4:12–14 (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

***Brothers and sisters when we are suffering for Christ stand strong in confidence because that is evidence that the Spirit of God is resting on you. You are in a power position with the God of the universe moving on your behalf.***

Romans 8:32 (NASB)

God who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will God not also with Jesus freely give us all things?

**God has already proved His commitment to us and “gave a sign to us” which was giving His Son to die in our place on the cross. Based on that proof, we know God will give us everything else. Jesus on the cross is evidence that God will take care of us, that HE will provide for us, and that HE will intervene for us. We may suffer, but remember we are forever royalty! We are joint-heirs with Christ!**