

## **Life in the Spirit, Part 4**

*John MacArthur*

### I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Romans 8:17-30.
- B. Our hope is that we will be like Jesus. (I John 3:2)
- C. The hope of glory is the theme of this section of Romans 8.
- D. There is security in our salvation--the believer is under no condemnation before God. (Romans 8:1)
- E. The work of Jesus brought about this status, and the Holy Spirit continues to confirm it.
- G. The Spirit guarantees our glory through the fact and feeling.

### II. One cannot invent a salvation that does not end in glorification. The inherent truth of salvation is that it is a future reality.

- A. There is a longing in man to gain back the glory that was with him before the fall.
- B. In Christ the glory of God is restored in a man.
- C. There is no salvation short of perfection.
- D. We are already on the way. (II Corinthians 3:18)

### III. The incomparable gains of glory. (Romans 8:17-18)

- A. Since we are the children of God, we are also heirs. (Galatians 3:26, Hebrews 1:14, James 2:5, Colossians 1:12, Philippians 1:6)
- B. There is a confidence that the believer has been saved unto glory.
- C. God has given the believer the authority to be His son. (John 1:12)
- D. We are heirs. God is the source of our inheritance. The best thing we could possess is God himself. (Galatians 3:29, 4:7, Colossians 3:24, Matthew 25:34, Psalm 73:25, Lamentations 3:24, Revelation 21:3)
- E. We will receive an inheritance to the extent that Christ did. (Ephesians 1, Hebrews 1:2, Matthew 25:21, Hebrews 12:2, Revelation 20:4, 3:24, 3:12, 4:4, I Corinthians 15:49, I John 3:2, Luke 22:30)

G. We enter into the same glory as Christ. (John 17:22-24, Titus 3:7, Hebrews 9:15, Philippians 3:20, I John 3, I Peter 1:4)

H. Everything that happens in this earth ought to be in perspective to what a believer will receive. (Romans 5:2)

I. The proof of receiving this gift is suffering. Suffering results in greater growth. The more we suffer in this life, the more we will have a capacity for God in the next one. (II Timothy 2:11, I Peter 5:10, II Corinthians 4:8, I Peter 1:6, II Corinthians 1:5, Philippians 3:10, Colossians 1:24, Daniel 12:3, I Peter 5:1, I Thessalonians 5:23-24)

IV. The inexpressible groans of glory.

V. The infallible guarantee of glory.

**Applications questions:**

1. How is our reward guaranteed in heaven as believers?

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2. What is the significance of the believer sharing his or her reward with Christ?

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3. What is the importance of suffering in the life of the believer? Explain.

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