

Hebrews 3:12-14

Partakers IN Christ

We are told that we have become partakers of Christ if we hold fast to the end... we have looked at the fact that the act of holding fast is the working of God, that it is our confidence because God has held us to make sure that we, in fact, endure. We have thought about all that it means to ground our hope in this sovereign working of God, and last week we considered the truth that partaking of Christ means that we draw life FROM Him, that we have been given new natures that are LIKE Him, and that we have the absolute confidence that we are held fast and that we will remain WITH Him as our source of all life... But, what does it mean that we draw all life from Him? What are we given IN this life that we draw? What is the shape and substance of this life? This week we will consider just what it means to be partakers IN Christ.

I. Partaking of Christ

- a. More than partaking of all the benefits but partakers of Christ Himself

- i. More than pardoning mercy
- ii. More than renewing grace
- iii. More than adoption
- iv. More than sanctification
- v. More than preservation
- vi. More than all of the rich mercies of the covenant of grace

b. We are made partakers of CHRIST HIMSELF

c. All the fullness dwells in Him and we are partakers

- i. This alters all that we are - we were poor, blind, weak and ruined.

1. We are rich

2 Corinthians 8:9 (NKJV)

⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

2. we have sight that other men lack –
Revelation 22.1-5,
3. we have been made NEW, WHOLE,
SEEN AS PERFECT

2 Corinthians 5.21

- ii. Death becomes ours, we are its master as
much as He is –

1Corinthians 15.50-58

- iii. We are His partners in all that He does
- d. Living and feeding on Him
- e. Union with Christ is the sum total and absolute
basis of our blessings and benefits

Galatians 2.20

f. MADE partakers - it is not ours by right of nature, but by right of purchase. Christ has purchased us, and given to us all that He possesses...

1Peter 1.17-21

II. SIBLINGS OF CHRIST

a. All Access

i. Adopted as sons and daughters –

Romans 8.12-17

ii. Co-heirs with Christ

b. All inclusive

i. His inheritance is ours - consider just what it means to be joint heirs with Him...

ii. His rights and privileges are ours

iii. His name is ours

iv. His accounts are ours

c. Same Table, Same Food –

John 4.32

- i. We have the same spiritual food that Jesus Himself had and has -
- ii. We have the same opportunity of nourishment, the same preparation of good things
- iii. We are NOT relegated to the little kid table at the back.

III. BRIDE OF CHRIST

Ephesians 5:30–32 (NKJV)

³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. ³¹ *“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”* ³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Of His flesh and of His bones, we are mingled with Him when He makes us His own

- All my worldly goods

- All my hopes
- All my dreams
- All my trials
- All my victories
- All my love

IV. BODY OF CHRIST

a. Beneficial Resources - what the body possesses, the whole body possesses...

i. 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 –

1. Wisdom
2. Righteousness
3. Sanctification
4. Redemption –

ii. 1 Thessalonians 3.11-13 -

1. Holiness
2. Love

iii. Colossians 3.1-4

Glory

iv. **Philippians 2.5-8**

Humility

v. **Psalm 45**

oil of Joy above all fellows

vi. **Romans 15.13**

Boasting of Hope and peace –

vii. **1Peter 1.3-5**

Maturing to the full inheritance

viii. His Destiny

V. EXCLUSIVE PARTAKERS

a. Those outside of Christ DO NOT have the benefits of Christ.

- i. They will not be pardoned
- ii. They will not be forgiven
- iii. They will not be saved
- iv. They are not of Christ
- v. They have the same invitation that we have, and the same general call to come to Christ.

b. Now some tell us this is hateful, or mean, but just consider the pictures given in scripture, the family of God, the bride of Christ, the body of Christ... these relationships mean NOTHING if they are NOT exclusive... you cannot derive any meaning from being in a family if everyone else is in the same family... then it's just everybody... marriage, it is reserved for those INSIDE that marriage, or if that doesn't show my point... is your body yours? Is it MINE?! Of course not! It is an exclusive thing...

c. Consider the fact that every single major religion takes the same stand. They all believe that they are right, and everyone else is wrong. Even the ones that claim to accept all others would say

that they are right about the need to do that... why do we have Jihad in the world? Because the Muslims believe that their religion is the only one that is right. Why are we not invited to the local celebration of Passover? Because the Jews in the synagogue rightly believe that their religion is an exclusive thing for those who are a part of it... or just take it out of the realm of religion... why do they put fences around private golf courses? Because they are private, exclusive, for those who are members...

d. This is the highest of privilege, there is much talk these days of privilege based on color, but here is the real privilege and it is for all who will come. We are privileged to be children of the Most High King, brothers of the Son of God. We are the redeemed of God and it IS a privilege!! We are to understand this fact and treat it with the respect it deserves... our lives should always reflect this high calling and precious truth, it is not white privilege, it is RIGHTEOUS Privilege.

- And in this privilege, we have the hope of eternal life in Christ, who alone provides it!