

11th. EPISCOPAL DISTRICT

# *Sons of Allen*

*African Methodist Episcopal Church*

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# INHERITANCE

~Rise & Shine Bible Study~

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It is never too early to begin to consider your life and the many intersections of inheritance- promised blessings.

The inheritance of the Christian is richly expressed throughout the breadth of GOD's word, the BIBLE. In this day and age we all avoid the manuals for our electronic contraptions, don't we? You know what I am talking about, don't you? Just consider the many gadgets, remote controls and digital devices that we possess and only understand a very small range of their functionality. For far too many, the Bible is treated in like fashion. Until we embrace it as our:

## **Basic-Instruction-Before-Leaving-Earth.**

The witness of the Holy Spirit offers evidence that if we are GOD's children, we are heirs of GOD the FATHER and fellow heirs of Christ Jesus, and indeed we suffer-paying a price with Him, in order that we may also be rewarded with Him.

“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**

From the beginning of time, we are promised the inheritance of a return to covenant relationship with GOD and the rich blessings that follow. With the first mention in the Bible occurring in the 31<sup>st</sup>. chapter of **Genesis** in the 14<sup>th</sup> verse: Rachel and Leah inquire of Jacob about their personal inheritance. Haven't we all asked the question what about me like Jennifer Hudson in movie *Dreamgirl's*. Remember the scene where CeeCee tells her that she is out to group? “It's more than you.”

“And Rachel and Leah answered and said unto him, is there yet any portion or inheritance for us in our father's house?” **Genesis 31: 14**

We must all begin to discern that there are two expressions of the inheritance that we must engage and embrace. An investment paid forward begins a legacy.

**INHERIT:** As in to receive a legacy

- † Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to whom you swore by your own self: 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and I will give your descendants all this land I promised them, and it will be their inheritance forever.' " **Exodus 32:13**
- † But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. **Psalm 37:11**
- † He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. **Revelation 21:7**

**INHERIT:** As in to bequest, leave or legacy

- † A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just. **Proverb 13:22**
- † In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: **Ephesians 1:11**
- † Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: **Matthew 25:34**

### **LIFE APPLICATION:**

Can you see that they are both gifts?

Consider the gift of GRACE... GOD's unmerited favor.

The blessings of this **great and ultimate inheritance** is reserved for us in heaven. It is being prepared for us, as we live and breath in this earthly realm, in heaven.

**John 14:1-3**

We should be excited about the down payment of the Holy Ghost stated in Paul's epistle (Letter) to the church in Ephesus, as a pledge of what is actually to come for the church triumphant. Indeed, this is the pledge of something far greater.

**Ephesians 1:14**

As Christ prays for his disciples the night before his death, JESUS prayed: "The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me. Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world." **John 17:22-24**

Yeap, it was OUR LORD **who paid it forward.**