



Berean Christian Fellowship

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What Sort of People Are We? - P1

“Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness” (2 Peter 3:11 NASB).

It is true that *“the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever”* (1 John 2:16-17 ESV). While we have a promise that we will abide forever through Jesus Christ, we still struggle with attraction to things destined for destruction. Each of us still struggles with sin, for *“if we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us”* (1 John 1:8). Is there anything in you today destined for destruction? YES!

What’s up with that? While you were justified in a moment by God through Jesus Christ, God’s work to sanctify you continues throughout your life. Jesus *“gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness [justification] and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession [sanctification] who are zealous for good works”* (Titus 2:14). Like all children, the Children of God also misbehave at times, but God is raising you to be mature. He is purifying and preparing you NOW for the responsibility of the inheritance He has for you at the coming of Jesus Christ. Your life today should reflect that. God did not save you just for this lifetime—He has *“caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time”* (1 Peter 1:3-5). God made us His children! Why? To obtain an inheritance in Christ’s coming Kingdom on earth and through all eternity!

It used to be that a child’s upbringing prepared them to manage their inheritance in their father’s estate or business. They were not passive heirs, but were given works to do that prepared them for their responsibilities. (In a similar way, you were likely raised with chores that helped prepare you for responsibility as an adult). As Believers, we also are not passive heirs: *“as long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he is owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by the father”* (Gal. 4:1-2). Right now, this very day, the Holy Spirit has given you works to do, *“for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure”* (Phil. 2:13).

So, how are we to respond? Well, no child is maturing if they try to avoid their chores, so go to the Lord and *“seek His face **continually**”* (Psalm 105:4b)! Like Samuel, never tire of saying, *“here I am”* (1 Sam. 3:4). Confess your struggles often to your Father, for *“if we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”* (1 John 1:9). AND seek your Father’s will: *“walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, **bearing fruit in every good work** and increasing in the knowledge of God”* (Col. 1:10). How do we do that? Listen to His Spirit and be in God’s Word, for *“all Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, **equipped for every good work**”* (2 Tim. 3:16-17). The Word of God equips you through the Holy Spirit, to not only do the works God has given you, but that you would also bear the Fruit of His Spirit while doing them. So, approach the works of each day to please the Lord, for He has given them to purify us for the responsibilities of our eternal inheritance in Christ’s Kingdom. Even so, Amen.

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