

The Earthly and the Eternal

Introduction

Genesis 25:29-34

1. Esau saw only the temporary, the now, rather than the blessing that was to be his later down the road. He gave up his birthright.
 - A. Birthright: "a particular right of possession or privilege one has from birth, especially as an eldest child."
 - B. In the spiritual sense, when we are born again (baptized into Christ), we have the privilege of having access to the tree of life, an eternity with Christ!
2. An important question that we all need to answer today is this:
 - A. What is our birthright?
 - B. Are we throwing it away?

The Temporary

- Those who chose the temporary:
 1. Esau.
Genesis 25:32-34
 2. The rich young ruler.
Matthew 19:16-22
 3. The rich farmer.
Luke 12:16-21

Our Birthright

1. We, as Christians, are children of God.

1 John 3:1-2 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that **we should be called children of God!** Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, **we shall be like Him**, for we shall see Him as He is.

2. We have been bought with a price.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Or do you not know that **your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God**, and you are not your own? For **you were bought at a price**; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, **which are God's**.

3. Brothers and sisters – we are heirs of God.

Galatians 3:26-29 For you are all **sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus**. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for **you are all one in Christ Jesus**. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and **heirs according to the promise**.

Romans 8:16-17 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that **we are children of God**, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that **we may also be glorified together**.

4. Our citizenship is in heaven – validating our precious birthright.

Philippians 3:20-21 For **our citizenship is in heaven**, from which **we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ**, who will **transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body**, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

The Eternal

- **The importance of choosing the Eternal over the temporal:**

- 1. Treasures in heaven.**

Matthew 6:19-21 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

- 2. Seek first the kingdom of God.**

Matthew 6:33-34 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

- 3. Set your mind on things above.**

Colossians 3:1-2 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

- 4. Always look to the things that yield eternal life and blessings.**

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Conclusion

- 1. Esau gave up his long term blessings in order to have the temporary, and many others that we read about in our Bible did the very same things.**
- 2. In Jesus Christ, we are offered a birthright, an eternal prize, a home in heaven eternally with HIM!**
- 3. So — which one have you truly chosen?**
- 4. I encourage you to live for Christ and make sure that your dearest treasure in life is to be with Christ eternally in heaven.**

