

Lesson 1: Sonship Defined

Scripture Focus: John 1:12 — *“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.”*

Speaker’s Insights:

- Sonship covers authority and inheritance.
- Being born again brings rights and responsibilities.
- The church is not a building but the body of Christ, the born-again believers.

Reflection Summary: Sonship is a real identity, not just a title. To be born again is to enter God’s kingdom with rights, authority, and inheritance. Believers must live with the awareness that they are children of God.

Key Takeaways:

- Sonship = identity, authority, inheritance.
- The church is the people, not the building.
- Being born again gives believers real rights in God’s kingdom.

Lesson 2: The Birthright Principle

Scripture Focus: Deuteronomy 21:17 — *“But he shall acknowledge the son of the hated for the firstborn, by giving him a double portion of all that he hath: for he is the beginning of his strength; the right of the firstborn is his.”*

Speaker’s Insights:

- The firstborn is the strength of the father’s right hand.
- The firstborn receives a double portion inheritance.
- Birthright is both privilege and responsibility.

Reflection Summary: Birthright is not just blessing but responsibility. The firstborn carries authority, inheritance, and the duty to care for others. In Christ, believers inherit this principle.

Key Takeaways:

- Birthright includes blessing and responsibility.
- The firstborn receives a double portion.
- Believers inherit this principle through Christ.

Lesson 3: Old Testament Illustrations

Cain & Abel

Scripture Focus: Genesis 4:4 — “And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering.” Hebrews 11:4 — “By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.”

Speaker’s Insights:

- Abel’s sacrifice was accepted because it was by faith and involved blood.
- Cain’s offering was rejected because it relied on works.
- “Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins. In Abel’s sacrifice, you can preach the gospel.”

Reflection Summary: Forgiveness and righteousness come only through blood — pointing to Christ’s sacrifice. Abel’s offering foreshadows the gospel, while Cain’s rejection warns against relying on human effort.

Key Takeaways:

- Abel’s sacrifice pointed to Christ.
- Works cannot replace faith in the blood.
- Forgiveness comes only through sacrifice.

Ishmael & Isaac

Scripture Focus: Galatians 4:28 — “Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.”

Speaker’s Insights:

- Ishmael was born of the flesh, Isaac of promise.
- Flesh gives birth to flesh, Spirit gives birth to Spirit.
- God restored Sarah’s womb to show His supernatural power.

Reflection Summary: God’s covenant is always through promise, not human effort. Ishmael represents the flesh, Isaac represents the Spirit. Believers must trust God’s supernatural promise.

Key Takeaways:

- Ishmael = flesh, Isaac = promise.
- God’s covenant is supernatural, not human-made.
- Believers are children of promise.

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Esau & Jacob

Scripture Focus: Hebrews 12:16–17 — *“Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.”*

Speaker’s Insights:

- Esau despised his birthright for temporary satisfaction.
- Jacob valued the blessing and received it.
- *“Many people today don’t know this birthright — that when you are born again you have come into a birthright, into an inheritance in God.”*

Reflection Summary: Esau’s mistake is a cautionary tale: don’t trade eternal blessings for fleeting desires. Believers must value their inheritance and not despise it.

Key Takeaways:

- Esau lost his inheritance for food.
- Jacob valued the blessing.
- Believers must not despise their birthright.

Reuben, Manasseh & Ephraim

Scripture Focus: Genesis 48:19 — *“And his father refused, and said, I know it, my son, I know it: he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great: but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations.”*

Speaker’s Insights:

- Reuben lost his birthright through sin.
- Manasseh was firstborn, but Ephraim received blessing.
- God’s choice is sovereign; obedience matters.

Reflection Summary: Disobedience can disqualify a person from inheritance. God’s sovereignty determines blessing, but obedience is essential to walk in it.

Key Takeaways:

- Sin can disqualify inheritance.
- God’s choice is sovereign.
- Obedience matters for blessing.

Lesson 4: Christ the True Firstborn

Scripture Focus: Colossians 1:15–18 — *“Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.”* Romans 8:29 — *“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”*

Speaker’s Insights:

- All Old Testament shadows point to Christ as the Firstborn.
- Christ is the image of the invisible God, the last Adam who restored what was lost.
- Believers are heirs and co-heirs with Christ — His victory is our victory.

Reflection Summary: Christ fulfills the role of the Firstborn. He is the true heir, and believers share in His inheritance. Everything that belongs to Christ — victory, wisdom, love — is shared with His people.

Key Takeaways:

- Christ is the true Firstborn.
- He restored what Adam lost.
- Believers are co-heirs with Christ.

Lesson 5: The Double Portion Blessing

Scripture Focus: 2 Kings 2:9 — *“And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.”* Acts 2:4 — *“And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”* Ephesians 1:13–14 — *“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”*

Speaker’s Insights:

- The mantle represents calling, power, and inheritance.
- When Christ ascended, He sent the Holy Spirit — the seal of our sonship.
- *“You are now the temple of the Holy Spirit, the confirmation of your inheritance.”*

Reflection Summary: The double portion blessing is fulfilled in Christ through the Holy Spirit. Just as Elisha received Elijah’s mantle, believers receive empowerment from the Spirit. The Spirit is the seal of sonship and inheritance.

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Key Takeaways:

- Elisha's double portion foreshadows the Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit seals our sonship.
- Believers are empowered as heirs of Christ.

Q&A Section

1. What does the term *birthright* mean in the Bible?
2. Why was Abel's sacrifice accepted while Cain's was rejected?
3. What do Ishmael and Isaac represent in Galatians 4?
4. How did Esau lose his birthright, and what lesson does this teach us?
5. Who is described as the "firstborn of all creation" in Colossians 1?
6. What is the believer's inheritance as co-heirs with Christ?
7. How does the Holy Spirit confirm our sonship and birthright?