

A young boy with dark hair is crying intensely, his mouth wide open in a scream. He is surrounded by several hands from different people, all pointing their index fingers directly at him. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

"What Use Is a Birthright to Me?"

"I am about to die."

Birthright

“Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.”

(Titus 2:6)

**“Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use
is a birthright to me?”**

(Genesis 25:32, ESV)

“As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.” (Romans 9:13)

“...thus Esau despised his birthright.” (Genesis 25:34)

**“But whosoever shall deny me before
men, him will I also deny before my Father
which is in heaven.”**

(Genesis 25:32, ESV)

“Any right, privilege, or possession into which a person is born, such as an estate descendible by law to an heir, or civil liberty under a free constitution.” (Webster, Noah. Birthright. Webster’s New Twentieth Century Dictionary unbridged, 2nd ed. William Collins + World Publishing co., Inc., 1978, pp. 186-187.)

“If you believe
on the Lord Jesus Christ,
you have an inheritance,
you have things that are yours
and shall be yours
forevermore!”

- I. What use is... this birthright of precepts (of guidance from God)?
- II. ... this birthright of prayer?
- III. ...this birthright of praise?
- IV. ...this birthright of preaching?
- V. ...this birthright of power?
- VI. ...this birthright of peace?
- VII. ...this birthright of being a prince?

I. What use is this birthright of precepts?

A. Freedom

“And I will walk at **liberty**: for I seek thy precepts.” (Psalm 119:45)

B. Ability

“Make me to understand the way of thy precepts: **so shall I talk** of thy wondrous works.” (Psalm 119:27)

C. Wisdom

“I have **more understanding than** all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.” (Psalm 119:99)

II. What use is this birthright of prayer?

A. Know that God is gathering every single one of your prayers.

“You have **kept** count of my tossings; **put** my tears in your bottle. Are they not **in** your book?” (Psalm 56:8)

B. And know that God is giving you profound powerful answers, as you abide in Jesus and his words abide in you.

“If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, **and it shall be done** unto you.” (John 15:7)

III. What use is this birthright of praise?

- A. The right life**
- B. The complete life**
- C. The eternal life**

“Thou wilt shew me the **path** of life: in thy presence is **fulness** of joy; at thy right hand there are **pleasures for evermore.**” (Psalm 16:11)

- D. The wrong life:** “But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.” (1 Timothy 5:6)

IV. What use is this birthright of preaching?

A. Jesus promised to give an irresistible voice & wisdom in preaching for him.

“For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.” (Luke 21:15)

B. Jesus has sent power on Earth to fulfill this promise as proven again & again.

“And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.” (Acts 6:10)

V. What use is this birthright of power?

A. It is *promised* power to accomplish your mission.

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All **power** is given unto me in heaven and in earth.” (Matthew 28:18)

“But ye shall receive **power**, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and **ye shall be witnesses** unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

(Continued: subpoint B is on next page)

B. It is *given* power that will cause your mission of sharing the empowered Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to accomplish God's will through you.

“And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and **began to speak** with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” (Acts 2:4)

“And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they **spake the word of God with boldness.**” (Acts 4:31)

VI. What use is this birthright of peace?

A. You are given peace... *with* God.

“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have **peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
(Romans 5:1)

B. You are given the *actual* peace.. *of* God.

“And **the peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:7)

C. You are given ability to create peace in the midst of a troubled tumultuous world.

“**If possible, so far as it depends on you, live **peaceably with all**.” (Romans 12:18)**

- (Remember: “Ye *are* the salt of the earth!”)

VII. What use is this birthright of being a prince?

A. You *are* a prince!

“And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for **as a prince** hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.” (Genesis 32:28)

B. Yours *is* “the heritage of the heathen.” (And, amazingly, *you are God’s heritage.*)

“But the Lord's portion is his people, **Jacob his allotted heritage.**” (Deuteronomy 32:9, ESV)

“He hath shewed his people the power of his works, that he may **give them the heritage of the heathen.**” (Psalm 111:6)

C. And you... will reign on the earth!

“And hast made us unto our God **kings and priests**: and we **shall reign on the earth.**”
(Revelation 5:10)

D. First in an introductory reign of a thousand years, with Christ!

“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and **shall reign with him a thousand years.**” (Revelation 20:6)

E. And then (Hallelujah!) *with* God the Father as well, *here on Earth*, you will reign forever... and ever!

Here this now:

“And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they **shall reign for ever and ever.**” (Revelation 22:5)

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