

*Romans 5:17. For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!*

- **What does this mean for us?**

## **Reigning in Life**

- **Reign: To rule over a domain, to hold royal office...**
- **What does it mean as a believer in 2023?**
- **This is an amazing promise!**

### **1. Those who receive**

*This defines who is eligible*

- **The people who receive are the ones who have the promise of 'reigning in life'.**
  - **The person who has been Born Again**
- **What has the believer received?**
  - a) **God's abundant provision of grace**
  - b) **The gift of righteousness**

### **2. God has an abundant PROVISION of grace**

*John 10:10. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

*Ephesians 1:7-8. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,*

- ▣ **God has LAVISHED His grace upon us**
- ▣ **Forgiveness, cleansing, salvation, redemption, regeneration, the Holy Spirit, etc**

*Galatians 5:22-23. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,<sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*

- ▣ **The nine fold fruit of the Spirit**

*2 Peter 1:3. His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.*

- ▣ **God has given us all things needed for life and Godliness**

### **3. God has given us the gift of righteousness – our POSITION before His throne**

*Hebrews 10:19-23. Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.*

**Righteousness: The ability to stand in the immediate presence of a holy, just and all powerful God without any sense of fear, guilt or condemnation**

- ▣ **We have been given ‘Right Standing’ in God’s kingdom**
- ▣ **We did not deserve, earn or merit this gift**

- **Any attempt by us to repay this free gift in fact creates a debt against us**

*Romans 4:1-5*

*John 3:3-6 Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again” “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!” Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.*

#### ▣ **We have been born again into the kingdom of God**

*1 John 3:1. See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.*

#### ▣ **As believers we are children of God**

*1 Peter 2:9. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

#### ▣ **We are a royal priesthood – in God’s royal family**

- **God is our father – He is the ‘King of Kings’**

*Romans 8:17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.*

#### ▣ **We are heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ**

## 4. We are called to reign in life

*Romans 5:17. For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness **reign in life** through the one man, Jesus Christ!*

- ▣ **We have received His PROVISION of abundant grace**
- ▣ **We have been given the POSITION of right standing - righteousness**

*In Adam death reigned – as believers in Christ - we reign in life*

- ▣ **We must learn to reign from the palace not the pits**
- ▣ **Our POSITION and PROVISION come as a result of being members of God's Royal Family (The royal household of the Kingdom of God)**

### *How does this work?*

- ▣ **When we face fear, or uncertainty, or sickness, or lack, or challenges, or conflict, or ... – we draw on the PROVISION available by the abundance of His grace and from our POSITION as co-heirs with Jesus Christ – members of Gods Royal Family.**

### *We draw on the resources of the royal family by:*

- ▣ **Reminding ourselves of the abundance of His grace (PROVISION) as revealed in His word.**
- ▣ **Reflecting on the incredible gift of righteousness (POSITION) that has given us right standing in His throne room – and thereby the authority of God's kingdom.**

**We outwork this by:**

- Learning from the wonderful example of how Jesus, our saviour, Lord and King – and how He ministered the **PRESENCE, POWER and PROVISION** of His Father when He lived and ministered among us.
- Grace, love, forgiveness, courtesy, kindness, faith, dignity, longsuffering, patience, gentleness, justice, etc...

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