

Spiritual Privilege

Sunday Morning, October 14, 2012

Thesis:

Responsibility, Privilege, and Opportunity in Christ
Taken Seriously Will Go Well For You!

Introduction:

We have heard the saying "It's a privilege, not a right!" touted on many different subjects from driving to voting. Some will argue that driving is a privilege not our right because it must be earned due to the great responsibility that comes with driving. A vehicle that is not driven responsibly is a dangerous weapon. Therefore you must show responsibility and earn the privilege to drive. Others say voting is a privilege based on what government allows us to do and the other side will say that voting is a right because all men are created equal, no government should dictate to us.

As Christians we have a great spiritual privilege that comes with great responsibility, just as a driver does with driving vehicles or a voter voting for what will take place in their country. Driving and Voting should be taken seriously as a great privilege that God has allowed us freedom to do. So should the Christian take great pride in the privileges God has given them spiritually to be responsible with.

I. We've Heard of Our Spiritual Responsibility To God

Parable of the Talents

Our Works Judged

Ministry of Reconciliation

Books - Life Recorded for the Day of Judgment
(The Bema Seat of the Righteous)

II. Realize Our Spiritual Privilege in Christ

Chosen Before the Foundation of the World

(Ephesians 1: 3-5)

3 Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens.
4 For He chose us in Him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love
5 He predestined us to be adopted through Jesus Christ for Himself, according to His favor and will,

Chosen For Sanctification

(II Thessalonians 2:13)

But we must always thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God has chosen you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth.

Chosen, A Gift of God

(Ephesians 2: 8-9)

8 For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift—
9 not from works, so that no one can boast.

Foreknown and Granted Privilege!

(John 6:65)

He said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to Me unless it is granted to him by the Father."

III Seek the Opportunity God Has Given Us!

(Luke 13: 6-9)

6 And He told this parable:

“A man had a fig tree that was planted in his vineyard. He came looking for fruit on it and found none.

7 He told the vineyard worker, ‘Listen, for three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it even waste the soil?’

8 “But he replied to him, ‘Sir, leave it this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it.

9 Perhaps it will bear fruit next year, but if not, you can cut it down.”

Dig and Dung It!

(Job 34:11)

For He repays a person according to his deeds, and He brings his ways on him.

God Causes Him to "Find" His Ways or "Acquire" (Heb)

(Isaiah 3:10)

Tell the righteous that it will go well for them, for they will eat the fruit of their labor.

You Will "Eat" the Fruit of Your Labor

Conclusion:

Responsibility, Privilege, and Opportunity in Christ,
Taken Seriously, Will Go Well For You!