

**23 July 2017 – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost.**

**Readings:** Is. 44:6–8; Romans 8:12–25; Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43.



**INTRO: Mountain Climbing:** *Out of the valley* - new verdict, new OS, new mind-set, new Spirit. **O.M.G.!** – Romans 8:12-25.



## I. O.M.G. A NEW IDENTITY!

**Romans 8:15-16**, “For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received **the Spirit of adoption** as sons, by whom we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.” **Romans 8:1-2**, *in Christ*.

**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!”



## II. O.M.G. A NEW ABILITY!

**Romans 8:12-14**, “We are debtors, not to the flesh... For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.”

**Galatians 5:18-24**, “But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”

**Romans 6:1-2**, “What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?”

**1 Corinthians 6:9-11**, “Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. **And that is what some of you were. But** you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

**1 John 1:8-9**, “If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

**1 John 3:9**, “**No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God’s seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God.**”

*Cf. Legacy of Luther*, pgs. 174-175.

**Matthew 13:38**, “The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one.”



### III. O.M.G. A NEW DESTINY!

**Romans 8:17-18**, “and if children, then **heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ**, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with **the glory that is to be revealed to us.**”

**Ephesians 1:11-14, 18**, “In him we have obtained **an inheritance**... In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of **our inheritance** until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory... I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, **the riches of his glorious inheritance** in his holy people.”

**CONCLUSION: Matthew 13:43**, “Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.” Let us be those who hear, and walk on the mountain tops 😊