

# **“WHEREOF ALL ARE PARTAKERS”, #1**

## **INTRODUCTION**

- I. In Heb. 12:8, Paul reminds the church that ALL are “partakers” of the “chastisement” of God, through the scripture, so as to “correct” their lives in the sight of God. ((Read or Quote Heb. 12:8)
  - A. The word “partaker” simply means “to share in, to have in common with, or to have part in.”
    1. There are some synonymous words **TO** “partake”, that illustrate this, as each word has the 4 letters p.a.r.t in them.
    2. These words are “**partner**”, “**partners**”, “**participate**” and “**participation**.”
  - B. In the N.T. there are several areas set forth “Whereof All Are Partakers”, referring to ALL of God’s children, regarding things **PRESENTLY, in this life on earth**.
- II. Now let’s examine them, one by one, noting that each point uses the **word** “partakers” in the N.T.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **I. 1<sup>st</sup>, we are partakers of CHRIST’S DEATH.**

- A. We initially partake of His death when we are “baptized into His death” according to Roman 6:3. (Read)
  1. At this point we figuratively come in contact with His saving **blood** shed IN His death. John 19:34; Rom. 6:3
  2. Our sins are washed away IN this baptism into His death. Rev. 1:5; Acts 22:16
- B. Then, as Christians there are other ways we are *partakers* of His death.
  1. We partake of His death In that we “partake” of the Lord’s Supper, which reminds us of His death and shed blood. 1 Cor. 10:16-21
  2. We also participate in Jesus’ death when WE, as believers, depend on the “blood” of Jesus to cleanse us as we walk in the light, and have continual access to His blood for the forgiveness of sins. 1 John 1:7-8

### **II. 2<sup>nd</sup>, we are partakers of CHRIST’S SUFFERINGS.**

- A. When we are persecuted for “righteousness’ sake,” we, in a small way, **share** in Christ’s suffering before and at the cross. Matt. 5:10; 1 Pet. 2:21; 2 Tim. 3:12
- B. Peter said that **when** we suffer through persecution, we (in perhaps a small way at least) are “partakers” of His suffering. 1 Pet. 4:13, 14-16
  1. Many Christians in the first century were persecuted unto death because they WERE Christians and refused to renounce Christ to stay alive. Rev. 2:10
  2. It is said of Polycarp when he was told to renounce Christ, if he wanted to live, *“Eighty and Six years have I served Him, and He has not denied me once, so why should I deny Him now,” at which time the stake was set afire and he was burned to death.*

### **III. 3<sup>rd</sup>, we are partakers of CHRIST’S HOLINESS.**

- A. Belonging to Christ, we want to live holy lives with and for Him. 1 Pet. 1:14-16
- B. Paul says THIS is “partaking” of Christ’s holiness. Heb. 12:10, 14

### **IV. 4<sup>th</sup>, we are partakers of CHRIST’S DIVINE NATURE.**

- A. The promise of the Lord is that when our “nature” (habit, or long practice of sin) is **changed FROM** sinful lust and corruption **TO** RIGHT LIVING, we take on the “divine nature” to be more like Him. 2 Pet. 1:4

- B. Our way of life is different, as we no longer live the way we once lived. 1 Pet. 4:1-2
1. Those still practicing these sinful things think we are “strange” for being different, and will persecute those of the divine nature. v. 5
  2. They, and we, will give account for our lives here in the judgment day. v. 6

**CONCLUSION**

- I. By partaking of Christ's *death*, *suffering*, *holiness* and *divine nature*, we become more and more LIKE Christ while we are here on earth.
- A. It becomes “natural” (our divine nature) to **think** and **do** the things that Christ did so as to be like him. Phil. 2:5; Heb. 12:1-2
- B. This life is too short and eternity is too long NOT to follow Him Who gave His life for us, that we might be prepared for the next life.

II. Are you ready to meet the Lord in the last day?

Don Tarbet