Scripture : Luke 15 v 23 to 32.

Subject: All that I have is thine.

Paraphrased All that I have is Yours

The elder brother's inheritance is what I want to speak about, however before embarking in detail we need to consider some background information. In Luke 15 is a parable that Jesus told concerning a man who had two sons and the younger son requesting the portion of his inheritance which was to be given to him, that normally would have been given on the death of his father.

After the father had granted his younger sons request, he left home and wasted his money on loose living, he eventually spent all his inheritance and was left with nothing. In a state of destitution he worked feeding pigs was so hungry he fancied eating pigs food, it doesn't say he ate any of it, however in this state his memories of home kicked in. verses 17 to 19 of Luke 15 it says, says "*And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants."*

He was welcomed home by his father who put on a celebration, the father rejoiced because his wayward son had repented of his riotous living and returned home.

As the partying preceded the elder brother enquired what was the celebration all about, his father told him that his younger brother had returned home. It was at this point the elder brother reacted and expressed how he was feeling by saying to his father that he had been loyal worked hard and had never been given a party.

His father then says something very powerful to this elder brother and says in the esv *"all that is mine is yours ."* The inheritance of the elder brother was everything the father possessed.

Let's look at the inheritance of the older brother. All that the father had is his. It means he would never be in want; he would have everything he needed. His future wealth was secure. Let's consider here that.

1. The Inheritance is Personal. *"All that is mine is yours"* these words of the father to his son indicated that nothing was going to be withheld from him. His inheritance was not only secure it was also certain.

He was not going to miss out on anything, because the father had reserved for him an inheritance which was permanently secure. This son had lived at home, worked, was fed and clothed, was never in want, lived in the security his father provided.

This oldest son had everything he needed without realizing it. I think this is true in relation to many of us, we too live without realizing that all that our Heavenly Father has is ours, for we are joint heirs with Christ.

Peter says this in 1 Peter 1 v 3 & 4 *'Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fades not away, reserved in heaven for you,"*

It is vitally important that we realize that we have an inheritance that is certain and secure. There is no possibility of the inheritance not being secure, the fact is it is reserved in heaven for us, no place is more secure than heaven. It cannot be stolen or even reduce in value.

This is an absolute truth, a truth that cannot be changed or altered in any way, these words of Peter the Apostle are immutable and undeniable, it is not possible to deny this truthful fact that we have an inheritance reserved in heaven for us.

2. The Inheritance is Precious.

No inheritance is more precious than the one referred to in this verse, incorruptible means it can never be corrupted, it is not liable to corruption or decay, it is imperishable

To qualify for this inheritance, we must be born again, we have to accept Jesus into our lives. In receiving the Lord Jesus, it is necessary to repent of sin, confessing our sinfulness and so receiving forgiveness.

Once we have accepted the Lord Jesus into our lives we become partakers of the divine nature, we are adopted into the family of God and become joint heirs with Christ. What a privilege this is, it is a privilege appointed to only those who have become followers and disciples of the Lord Jesus.

We should value the fact that we have been forgiven and have an inheritance that no one can take from us. It is important to abide in Christ, to live each day in the knowledge that we have an inheritance that is incorruptible.

We should never underestimate the value of this inheritance, it was purchased for us at great cost, Jesus paid the ultimate cost to secure this inheritance, therefore we need to appreciate its true value.

This inheritance has been given to us by God's grace, we did nothing to secure it, it is obtained freely by God's grace. Once we have accepted Jesus as our Lord and saviour, we are then begotten unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus, this inheritance is then marked as ours and automatically reserved in heaven for us.
So, so the inheritance is personal, it is precious and.

3. The Inheritance is Promised.

The text in 1 Peter 1 v 3 & 4 says, *'Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively*

hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fades not away, reserved in heaven for you,"

Let's note the last part of the verse *"Reserved in heaven for you,".* The promises of God are absolutely certain and cannot fail. Verse 5 holds the key to the certainty of our inheritance. *"Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time".*

Note, reserved in heaven for you who are kept by the power of God. It a promise a promise that cannot possibly go unfulfilled. The Lord always Keeps his word, his word accomplishes what is expressed, it becomes what it says, when the Lord said in Genesis 1 *Let there be be light*, there was light. Read Genesis 1 and you will see all that the Lord said came to pass. His word is eternal.

Isaiah 40 v 8 "The grass withers, the flower fades, "the word of the Lord endures forever."
1 Peter:2 v 5 *"But the word of the Lord endures forever."*

We see therefore that Gods word is everlasting, which means it cannot case to be. When God makes a promise, it is immutable and cannot be changed. The words of the Apostle Peter are unalterable because it is the word of the Lord.

The other truth to notice is that it is not possible for this promise to go unfulfilled. The Inheritance is promised to you, it reserved for you and the Holy Spirit has been given to you as a guarantee.

The Holy Spirit is the deposit given to assure us that the inheritance is secure, it is guaranteed and ready to be be given to us on our arrival in heaven.

In John 14 v 1 & 2 Jesus makes a promise He said *"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."*

There is a place prepared and reserved for us, Jesus promised this, it's a promise that cannot fail. 2Corinthians 1 v 20;says "For all all the promises of God in him *are* yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us."

The late Ira Stamphill an American hymn writer composed a song the chorus which says.

"I've got a mansion just over the hilltop

In that bright land where we'll never grow old

And some day yonder we will never more wander

But walk on streets that are purest gold."

The Father told his son, "All that I have is yours."

By putting a contemporary and relevant interpretation of this verse, we can apply it to ourselves and accept that all that the Father has is ours. This elder brother of the prodigal lived without enjoying what was his.

How many of us are living and not enjoying our Christianity as we should, we live and are oblivious of the fact that there is so much for us enjoy.

The cares of life can become too much for us, and we forget that the Bible says, "cast all your cares upon him for he cares for you."

Don't go through your Christian living under a cloud, let the bright and morning star light up your sky, if you feel in the doldrums let the lily of the valley and rose of Sharon pervade youir life.

All that the Lord has you can enjoy, but you must avail yourself of it.

We have observed that the inheritance is Personal, it is Precious and Promised.

Lastly, we have.

4. The Present Inheritance.

All that I have is yours. We inherit eternal life in the here and now.

There is so much we can enjoy now, we have a future inheritance that's secure, however the Lord wants us to enjoy the privileges of Salvation here and now.

We know the Father welcomes the returning prodigal who lost out for so long. The elder brother could have enjoyed so much more had he realised that all the Father had was his.

He lived without enjoying what was rightfully his. He probably thought that his father was favouring his wasteful son, but this was a false conception, because all that the father had was his, but he never realised it.

We have to make sure that we enjoy our Christian faith, not live as though we have nothing, we have access to so much through the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have peace with God, we are clothed in the righteousness of Christ, we are justified by faith, we can be filled with the Holy Spirit. We have access into the presence of God, we are made partakers of the divine nature.

There is so much in Christ that we have access too, let's take the opportunity to avail, ourselves of the riches that are ours in Christ.