

## The Holy Spirit Our Guarantee

### Scripture

“In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. In Him you also [trusted], after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.” (Eph 1:11-14 NKJV)

### Devotion

I am not giving legal advice, but I was once told there was a big difference between the words guarantee and warranty. Guarantee, I was told, meant a promise without any exceptions as where warranty could have exceptions. Now I always see the words limited warranty so maybe there is some truth to what I was told.

Well God said that the Holy Spirit is our guarantee or our earnest as other translations have it. He is the down payment if you will. God’s Holy Spirit by His graces and fruit guarantee the believer that his future redemption is secure. It seems that He could do this two ways.

One, the fruit of the Spirit assures us by providing exculpatory evidence. “By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.” (1Jo 4:13 NKJV) “Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.” (1Jo 3:24 NKJV) “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.” (Joh 14:21 NKJV) “. . . [T]he fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.” (Ga 5:22-23 NKJV)

Two, the fruit of the Spirit assures us by providing faithful endurance to the end. “Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.” (1Pe 1:3-5 NKJV)

The fruit of the Spirit is love, faithfulness and self-control which are all needed for us to make our pilgrimage through this dark world. “So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. And if Christ [is] in you, the body [is] dead because of sin, but the Spirit [is] life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors— not to the flesh, to live according 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 as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” (Ro 8:8-14 NKJV)

May we never rest on our laurels! We should prove ourselves day by day for it is not how we begin the race, but how we finish that matters. “. . . Exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end” (Heb 3:13-14 NKJV).