

Cleansed By God

Description

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1 Corinthians 6:1-11

Paul provided a list of persons who will not inherit the kingdom of God. Adulterers are on the list. The word "inherit" is important. The kingdom of God is received by humans. Nowhere in the Bible does it say that humans are responsible to build or usher in the kingdom of God.

If the kingdom of God is inherited, then who are the heirs? Paul said that the children of God are "those who are led by the Spirit" (Romans 8:14). All those who are "washed . . . sanctified . . . justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:11) will enjoy the blessing of the Lord.

A twofold pattern is at work with negative and positive aspects. Paul said to "put off your old self" and "put on the new self" (Ephesians 4:22, 24). For the repentant person, the Spirit washes corrupted desires so that the person becomes a new creation in Christ.

God invites us to repent and be thoroughly cleansed by the work of God's Spirit. Only then will we hold fast to the truth and inherit the kingdom of God.

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