

A SEVEN-LINKED CHAIN OF FELLOWSHIP

By Keith Greer

What does it mean to have fellowship with God. The word itself means "joint communion; partaker; joint participation."

"That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. " {1 John 1:3}

Let us discuss some things which we 'share' in our fellowship with one another and with God.

FELLOW-HEIRS. "... that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, " {Ephesians 3:6} We have that one inheritance prepared for us. Read 1 Peter 1:3-9.

FELLOW-MEMBERS. "For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ ". {1 Corinthians 12: 2} We are part of that family (the church) of which Christ is the head.

FELLOW-PARTAKERS. "For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, "{Hebrews 3:14} As members of that one body, we share in all the blessings in Christ. Read Ephesians 1:3.

FELLOW-CITIZENS. "Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, "{Ephesians 2:19}

This world is just our temporal dwelling. Our home is beyond the bright blue. "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, "{Philippians 3:20}

FELLOW-LABORERS. "And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the Book of Life. " {Philippians 4:3}

Jesus taught, in the parable of the talents, that we all have different abilities. Yet, all work together for the good of all. It is a team effort. All laboring for the cause of Christ.

FELLOW-SOLDIERS. "No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier. " {2 Timothy 2:4}

All Christians make up the Lord's army. We have common enemies=Satan and sin. We must willingly engage in this conflict and defeat our enemies. To help us accomplish this task we have the love of God and the armor of God. Please read Ephesians 6: 10-18.

FELLOW PRISONERS. "Greet Andronicus and Junia, my countrymen and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me. "{Romans 16:7}

While we live in this world many things hold us "prisoners" during our sojourning here: depression, suffering, sickness and discouragement. All of these things, and many other discomforting items, seek to hold us in bondage to Satan. Yet, through Jesus Christ we have hope.

"This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil," {Hebrews 6:19}

Many things we share together with God and one another in this wonderful relationship. No greater family can one be a member of than the family of God. We must never forget our citizenship is in heaven, Philippians 3:20. Every child of God all over the world is part of my spiritual family in Christ. My friend are you in this chain? ***