

A FORETASTE OF HEAVEN

EPH. 1:13, 14
(WEYMOUTH)

I. MEANING OF THE WORD "ARRABON"

1. DERIVED FROM HEB.
2. SAME WORD USED IN GEN. 38:17, WHERE IT MEANS A "PLEDGE", RELATING TO AN EXCHANGE.
3. WAS USED FOR THE BRIDEGROOM'S BETROTHAL GIFTS TO THE BRIDE.
4. SURNAME IN LATIN AND FRENCH, MEANING THE MONEY PAID TO SEAL A BARGAIN.
5. FOUND IN 2 COR. 1:22 AND 55 AS "THE GUARANTEE OF THE SPIRIT".
6. THE ENG. WORD "EARNEST" HAS THIS MEANING IN LAW, WHERE WEBSTER'S DICT. GIVES MEANING
 1. SOMETHING OF VALUE GIVEN BY A BUYER TO A SELLER, TO BIND THE BARGAIN. (EARNEST MONEY)
 2. A TOKEN OF WHAT IS TO COME; A PLEDGE.
7. THE N.T. EXPPLANATION - "THE EARNEST OF THE Sp." DENOTES THE GIFTS OF THE Sp., GIVEN TO THE BELIEVER AS PART PAYMENT OR FORETASTE OF THE "COMING WEIGHT OF GLORY" WHEN WE "SHALL BE LIKE HIM." SO THE LORD THE Sp. CHANGES US INTO HIS LIKENESS FROM ONE DEGREE OF GLORY TO ANOTHER. THUS THE H.S. BEGINS AND DEVELOPES HERE AS A FORETASTE OF THE COMPLETE ATTAINMENT IN HEAVEN.
8. A SIMILAR EXPRESSION IS FOUND IN ROM. 8:23 "THE FIRST FRUITS OF THE Sp!"
9. THE GREEKS USED THE WORD FOR MONEY WHICH IS GIVEN IN A PURCHASE AS A PLEDGE THAT THE FULL AMOUNT WOULD BE PAID LATER.
10. IN HEB. 6:4,5 WE READ THAT THOSE WHO HAVE BECOME PARTAKERS OF THE H.S. HAVE TASTED THE HEAVENLY GIFTS AND HAVE TASTED THE GOODNESS OF THE WORD OF GOD AND THE POWER OF THE WORLD TO COME. THUS THE H.S. IS BOTH A FORETASTE AND A PLEDGE OF FUTURE BLESSEDNESS.
NOTICE THE RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN SUCH AN EARNEST AND THE INDWELLING OF THE H.S. IN US:
 1. THE EARNEST IS PART OF THE WHOLE SUM.
 2. AN EARNEST IS BUT LITTLE IN COMPARISON WITH THE WHOLE.
 3. AN EARNEST IS THE GUARANTEE OF GOOD FAITH, OR HONEST MEANING OF SETTLED PURPOSE OF THE ONE WHO PLEDGES IT.

II. HOW IS THE H.S. A FORETASTE OF HEAVEN?

1. THE COMING OF THE H.S. WAS THE FULFILLMENT OF THE SAVIOR'S PROMISE, JUST AS HE HAS PROMISED US AN ETERNAL HOME IN HEAVEN. (SEE 2 COR. 1:15-22.)
2. THE H.S. HAS SEALED US, REGENERATED US, AND MADE US GOD'S CHILD.
3. THIS SPIRITUAL REDECTION, HOWEVER, IS ONLY IN ANTICIPATION OF THE FULL REDEMPTION. EPH. 1:14 AND ROM. 8
 - A. OF CREATION ROM 8:21
 - B. OF OUR BODIES ROM 8:23

4. THE PRESENT GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT ARE FORETASTES OF THE
PERFECT GIFTS IN HEAVEN.

A. JOY

B. PEACE

C. KNOWLEDGE

D. REST. HEB. 6:3

E. DELIGHT IN SERVICE

F. COMMUNION WITH SAINTS.

G. VICTORY

(1) OVER SIN

(2) OVER SATAN

(3) OVER THE WORLD

H. NEARNESS TO OUR BELOVED.

5. HIS WORK IN OUR HEARTS NOW IS A FORETASTE OF THE
PERFECT CONDITION OF HEAVEN.

A. HIS ENTRANCE INTO THE SOUL BRINGS WITH IT THAT SAME
LIFE WHICH ENTERS HEAVEN; NAMELY, THE ETERNAL LIFE.

B. HIS ABIDING PRESENCE IN US CONSECRATES US TO THE
SAME PURPOSE TO WHICH WE SHALL BE DEVOTED THROUGHOUT
ETERNITY, NAMELY, THE SERVICE OF THE LORD our God.

C. HE CREATES IN US THAT SAME HOLINESS WHICH IS ESSENTIAL
TO THE ENJOYMENT OF HEAVEN.

D. HIS INFLUENCE OVER US BRINGS US THAT SAME COMMUNION
WITH GOD WHICH WE SHALL ENJOY FOREVER IN HEAVEN.