



08 | God's Presence Is Hope

H A N D O U T

By: **Steve Ellis** | August 2026

What does the word deposit mean? _____

"And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory." (Ephesians 1:13–14, NIV)

The Spirit who is present with us today also points forward to a future hope.

The Spirit is God's Guarantee

The Promised Presence:

Joel promised that God would pour out His Spirit (Joel 2:28-29).

Jesus promised that God would pour out His Spirit (Acts 1:4-5).

Peter, speaking to the crowds on the Day of Pentecost, said this is what was being fulfilled (Acts 2: 14-21).

The fulfillment of God's promise becomes a guarantee of _____.

"who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory." (Ephesians 1:14, NIV)

What is our inheritance?

When Paul begins talking about our future hope, in Romans 8, **he starts with** _____.

Creation Waiting

"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time." (Romans 8:18–22, NIV)

Our hope, Christian hope, is tied to God's good _____.

“Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.” (Genesis 1:2, NIV)

In Romans 8, Paul tells us that creation is waiting for the day when creation will be

_____ **from decay.**

“Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.” (Romans 8:23, NIV)

Where is the story moving?

- What does the liberation of creation look like?
- What does the redemption of our bodies look like?
- What is the inheritance the Spirit guarantees?

The next chapter turns us to the final pages of our Bibles.

Everything New

“Then I saw ‘a new heaven and a new earth,’ for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.’ He who was seated on the throne said, ‘I am making everything new!’ Then he said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ (Revelation 21:1–5, NIV)

What happens when God's presence fills His renewed creation.

_____ is gone

_____ is gone

_____ is gone

_____ is gone

Everything that caused creation to groan under the weight of decay is made new. This is the hope Paul was describing in **Romans 8**.

God's presence with us now guarantees that more is to come.

Continuing The Journey

He is **presence, life, leading, renewing, dwelling, transforming, uniting, and hope.**

One More Thing:

Christian hope is wrapped in God's _____ **Spirit**, the **deposit** _____
our inheritance.

Scripture Acknowledgement

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For Additional Study

[Empowered By The Spirit](#): God's Gift to Strengthen His People and Transform the World, *Wes McAdams*

[Who Is the Holy Spirit](#): *BibleProject Guide*

[What Role Does the Holy Spirit Play in Christian Life?](#), *N.T. Wright Online* (video)