Baptism Part 8 Inaugurated Eschatology and the Offspring of Abraham

I. Eschatology: Over-realized, Under-realized, or Inaugurated?

- 1) Over-realized eschatology—expecting too much progress too soon
- 2) Under-realized eschatology—expecting too little progress now
- 3) Inaugurated—expecting the right amount of fulfillment now and the right amoung later

Conclusion: To see the new covenant as an effectual covenant in which all covenant members 1) know God 2) have the law written on their hearts 3) have their sins forgiven 4) are indwelt by the Holy Spirit and 5) are taught by God, is not an overrealized eschatology, but an inaugurated eschatology taught by the New Testament. On the flipside, to argue that new covenant membership is still partly based on physical descent from a covenant member is an under-realized eschatology.

II. Who is/are the Offspring of Abraham in the New Covenant?

A: Primarily Jesus Christ, and secondarily all who are in Christ through faith (Gal. 3:16, 29).

Those who are in Christ are described as...

- 1) Those who have been justified by faith (Gal. 3:24)
- 2) Those who are sons of God through faith (Gal. 25–26)
- 3) Those who have been put on Christ by baptism (Gal. 3:26–27)
- 4) Those who have received the promised Holy Spirit through faith (Gal. 3:13–14)

Conclusion: In the new covenant, being the offspring of Abraham means more than simply having promises addressed to you, it means having what was promised—including the Holy Spirit. Any kind of covenant membership that falls short of this is not true new covenant membership.