

High-Minded

Reading – Colossians 3:1-11
Romans Chapter 8 Outline

I. IN CHRIST THERE IS FREEDOM FROM SIN (1-17)

A. FREEDOM FROM THE CONDEMNATION OF SIN (1-4)

1. Available to those in Christ, made possible by the law of the Spirit of life (1-2)
2. An accomplishment not attained by the Law, but by the death of Christ (3-4)

B. FREEDOM FROM THE POWER OF SIN (5-17)

1. To those who set their minds on the things of the Spirit, not the flesh, pleasing God (5-8)
2. To those who have the indwelling Holy Spirit (9-11)
3. To those who by the Spirit put to death the deeds of the body (12-13)
4. To those thus led, who are the children of God and joint heirs with Christ (14-17)

II. BLESSINGS OF BEING CHILDREN OF GOD (18-39)

A. THE GLORY TO BE REVEALED IN US (18-25)

1. Present sufferings don't even compare (18)
2. The whole creation eagerly awaits for the revealing and glorious liberty of the children of God (19-22)
3. We also eagerly wait with perseverance for this hope (23-25)

B. THE HELP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (26-27)

1. Helps in our weakness as we pray (26a)
2. By interceding for us as we pray (26b-27)

C. ALL THINGS WORKING TOGETHER FOR GOOD (28-30)

1. For those who love God, called according to His purpose (28)
2. For such, whom God foreknew, He will carry out His ultimate purpose (29-30)

D. GOD'S LOVE TOWARD HIS ELECT (31-39)

1. God, who spared not His own Son, is on our side (31-33)
2. Christ, who died for us, now intercedes for us at God's right hand (34)
3. Through such love we are more than conquerors over all things (35-39)

WORDS TO PONDER

law of the Spirit of life - 1) possibly an expression referring to the Gospel; or, 2) the law (principle) involving the life-giving Spirit who aids those in Christ to become free of the "law of sin and death" in their members (cf. 7:23 with 8:11-13)

the creation - various explanations are often given: 1) all of mankind; 2) only the saved; 3) the whole physical creation placed under the curse (**Genesis 3:17; 8:21; Re 22:3**), using the kind of language found in Ps 98:7-9; 148:1-14.

predestined - predetermined; note carefully in v. 29 that it is based upon "foreknowledge" (cf. 1 Peter 1:2), and that which is predetermined is **WHAT** those in Christ are to become, not **WHO** are to be in Christ

elect - chosen; according to 1 Peter 1:2, this election is based upon God's foreknowledge, not some arbitrary choice

intercedes - to make a petition on behalf of another; used of the Holy Spirit in v. 26-27 (interceding as a "translator"?), and of Christ in v. 34 interceding as "defense counsel"?)