



ADULT CLASS APRIL 12, 2020

Romans 8 – There Is No Condemnation In Christ

Overview of Romans...

- A. Chapter 1: God's Power to Save; the Unrighteousness of the Gentiles.
- B. Chapter 2: Indictment of the Jews.
- C. Chapter 3: All Have Sinned, But by Faith in Christ All Can Be Righteous.
- D. Chapter 4: Example of Abraham's Faith.
- E. Chapter 5: The Blessings of Justification; Christ is Greater Than Adam.
- F. Chapter 6: We Are Slaves of Righteousness.
- G. Chapter 7: The Law Brings Knowledge of Sin
- H. Chapter 8: There Is No Condemnation In Christ; We Are More Than Conquerors

Intro:

- A. In many ways, chapter 8 is the climax of Paul's letter to the Romans.
- B. Leading us to this point, Paul has shown us...
 - 1. The universality of sin in chapters 1-3
 - 2. The only way to be justified is faith and not by the Law or works of the flesh – Chapter 4
 - 3. The problems that sin creates with our relationship to God. – Chapters 5-7
- C. After showing us the impossibility of keeping the Law perfectly and how hopeless we would be without Christ, he now begins to detail the great blessings we have in Christ.

I. FREEDOM FROM SIN – Rom. 8:1-4

- A. Under the Law every Jew stood condemned. Under Christ there is now no condemnation for those who walk according to the Spirit.
 - 1. The Law condemned. Christ sets us free!
 - 2. Sin used the Law to entice those under it to break the very law they were trying to keep.

3. For those in Christ, who do not sin but live according to the Spirit, there is now no condemnation.
- B. This passage is not proof for the false doctrine of “once saved, always saved”.
1. As we have already learned, a study of the context is essential to understand this passage correctly. – Rom. 8:4; Tit. 2:11-14
 2. What we understand is that man can now be completely free from the condemnation of sin which was not possible under the Old Law. – Heb. 10:1-4
- C. This freedom is made possible by the law of the Spirit of life. – Rom. 8:2
1. It is the source of true freedom. – Jn. 8:32
 2. This new law was referred to as “the gospel” in Rom. 1:16
 3. The Law of Moses could not give this life because it depended on man to keep it perfectly. – Rom. 8:3
 4. Christ came to live in “the likeness of sinful flesh” and “condemned sin in the flesh” by living and sinless life. – Heb. 4:15
 5. Because he kept “the righteous requirement of the Law” perfectly and then offered himself as a propitiation, these things can be fulfilled in us. – Rom. 8:3b-4; Gal. 5:34-35

II. WE DO NOT WALK ACCORDING TO THE FLESH. – Rom. 8:5-8

- A. Believers and unbelievers have two separate goals in their life. Their focus is different. – Luke 11:34
1. When Paul speaks of the “flesh” in Rom. 8:5, he is using it in the sense of the worldly viewpoint while the “Spirit” is used to speak of a Godly viewpoint or a spiritual outlook.
 2. This is a personal choice. – Col. 3:2
 3. It is a choice between life and death. – Rom. 8:6
- B. We do not inherit a “sinful nature” which we have no control over.
1. It is the love of the world which motivates a mind for the flesh. – 1 Jn. 2:15
- C. There is no middle ground. Our mind must be set on one or the other. – Rom. 8:7-8
1. Enmity is the same as hostility. – Phil. 3:18-19
 - a) *hostility; by implication, a reason for opposition: hatred. – Strong*
 2. We’ve spoken before of the impossibility of serving two masters. – Mat. 6:24; Js. 4:4

III. IF WE WALK BY THE SPIRIT, THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST DWELLS IN US. – Rom. 8:9-

- A. The Romans were still living in fleshly bodies.
 - 1. When Paul says they were “not in the flesh” he didn’t mean they were no longer living.
 - 2. They were not attempting to be justified by the flesh or guided by fleshly desires. – 2 Cor. 10:3-4
- B. How does the Spirit dwell in us?
 - 1. It dwells within us when we allow the Word to guide us. – Col. 3:15-16
 - 2. There is also a personal indwelling of the Holy Spirit. – 1 Cor. 6:19
 - 3. There is much debate about how the Spirit dwells in us and we may be led to believe we must choose between one of these two options.
- C. Our bodies will eventually die because of the consequences of Adam’s sin. – Rom. 8:10
 - 1. Even though our bodies will die, our spirit will live on because of the righteousness of Christ. – Jn. 6:63
- D. The righteous will be raised again at judgement. – Rom. 8:11
 - 1. This passage gives us great hope.
 - 2. Life will once again be given to our mortal bodies. – 1 Cor. 15:52-53

IV. WE ARE OBLIGATED TO LIVE BY THE SPIRIT. – Rom. 8:12-14

- A. We do not owe the flesh anything since it will never give us anything of value. – 1 Pet. 4:1-3
- B. We owe the Spirit everything. – 1 Cor. 6:19
- C. We must put to death the deeds of the flesh. – Rom. 8:13; Eph. 4:22-24
 - 1. When we become Christians, we must do so with the understanding that the old man of sin must be crucified. – Gal. 2:20
- D. Those who are led by the Spirit are sons of God. – v. 14
 - 1. We are led by the Spirit when we follow its teachings as revealed in the Scriptures. – 1 Jn. 5:3-4

V. WE ARE ADOPTED INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD. – Rom. 8:15-17

- A. The Spirit is not bringing us into bondage but out of bondage.
 - 1. The law left its followers in bondage.
 - 2. Because of Christ, our relationship with God is now that of adopted children. – Gal. 4:4-6
- B. We now have the privilege to say Abba Father!

1. This is a term of endearment which expresses warmth and a close relationship.
- C. We can be confident of our adoption because the Holy Spirit bears witness to it along with our spirit. – Rom. 8:16
1. There are two witnesses to our adoption.
- D. We become joint-heirs with Christ. – Rom. 8:17
1. There is a condition to our inheritance. – 2 Tim. 2:11-12; Mat. 16:24-25;