

Romans

Chapter 8

8:1-2

“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. “

Previous chapter had complaint and conflict. Frustrated. He doesn't say that there is no accusation; he doesn't say that there is nothing that deserves condemnation. There is. Indictment is thrown out; no condemnation. The condition is that they are in Christ. Because He made the satisfaction. He is the *Refuge*. Condemnation due from the Law is satisfied. Goes from talking about himself to everyone.

Not prisoners of the flesh. Have a new life. Liberated from law of sin and death. Liberated from the oppression and drudgery of trying to follow the Law. Now living in freedom of the Spirit.

V 3-4

“For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. “

The Law made nothing perfect. Cannot justify or sanctify. No promise of grace or pardon. There was weakness - NOT in the Law- Divinely revealed. Weakness was in the *flesh*. Our nature is the problem. Law leaves us as it finds us. We are unable to keep it. No provision for failure. Impossible for the Law to take away sin Heb 10:4-5. Cannot approach a Holy God. Separation. Law opened and showed wounds but didn't have a remedy.

Because of Christ - Covenant of Grace - we receive a new nature. We walk in the Spirit. Freed from sin and death. Sin was condemned. Devil is disarmed; his power is lost. Death as an enemy is conquered. Sin is condemned in the Flesh of Christ. II Cor 5;21. Divine justice is satisfied. Breach of the Law is repaired for us.

Righteousness of the Law is fulfilled. Not *by* us but *in* us. If you are not in Christ, then you have to be judged by the Law.

We are not carnal but walk according to the Spirit.

V 5 and 6 show that this is life. To not walk in the flesh but in the Spirit. We will know where we stand.

Carnal mind is in opposition to God and in rebellion. Enmity. Rebels against authority. The 2 sides are not reconcilable. Like light and darkness.

Grace can change them. Minds cannot.

When you belong to Christ, the Spirit dwells in us. Spirit gives life even though the body is dead (clay, decaying)- this is because of sin. Spirit helps us conform to Christ. Our spirit is alive. Mat 22:32 - He is God of the living - even though Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were dead.

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

V 11 - body will *also* be reunited with the soul and glorified. Christ was the First Fruit. That same Spirit will give life to our mortal bodies. I Cor 15:20-first fruits. These are promises.

Bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit - I Cor 6:19. Spirit will breathe on them. Raised up.

V 12 - we are not debtors to the flesh. We are not to serve the flesh. Take care of our bodies without giving in to carnal desires. Implies that we are indebted to spiritual things. We have so great a salvation. I Cor 6:20- we are bought with a price. Satisfying the flesh leads to the second death.

We do this through the Spirit.

V- 14-17: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together."

Veils and separation in OT are gone. II Cor 3: 15-16 - veil over their hearts when they read the Scriptures. We don't have to be afraid. Veil is done away by Christ.

Bondage to Law sends us to Christ; Spirit of adoption sends us to the Father.

The Spirit leads us. We submit to Him. Follow in obedience. If we are led by the Spirit we are sons of God.

Not a spirit of fear, bondage. Covenant of Law had fear, bondage. We also have the bondage of sin if we are not in Christ.

Instead, we are joint heirs with Christ. Glorified together. We don't purchase salvation; we are heirs to it. He is our Inheritance - live the Levites. Hebrews 1:2 - Christ is heir of all things. Also John 17:24- Jesus wants those that the Father gave Him to be with Him and behold His Glory. Rev 3:21 - those that overcome sit on the Throne with Him.

Trinitarian Plan.

Filial love for the Father - we are accepted and delight in Him. We also depend on Him. We also have confidence.

Abba, Father - Jesus said this in Mark 14:36 in the garden. Also represents Jew and Gentile- Aramaic word and Greek word pater. Christ is the Mediator.

Spirit witnesses to our spirit.

We may have to suffer with Him or for Him. But compared to the Glory that is coming this is nothing. We suffer only in this present time.

These are sure promises. We will be revealed as sons of God.

20-22 The Creation was cursed after the fall of man. All creatures are subject to God's Judgment on Man. Creation is also in bondage. But it won't always be so. Sin is a burden to ALL Creation. The world will be renewed. New Heavens and a new earth. Man being restores (sons of God being revealed) undoes the Curse and Glory comes to the whole Creation. Curse will be done away with. Creation looks forward to this.

V23: we are also groaning for the adoption and redemption of our bodies. Body is important also; as well as the soul. Body is also saved - glorified.

Creation restored.

Salvation is a hope of the future. We are waiting for its fullness – we do not see the fullness of it. Need perseverance.

Roman 8: 26-27

Spirit helps us in our weakness. We don't even know how to pray. We don't know what to pray for. We tend to focus on ourselves and our needs. And Paul includes himself. Spirit of grace and supplication. He lives in us. Helps us to pray for what is God's will.

Makes intercession for us. Another Paraclete. Jesus intercedes for us at the Right Hand. Spirit dwelling within us. Fervent prayer- can be silent or exuberant. Can be tongues.

Our thinking and praying can be disordered. Spirit speaks to us in a very deep way. When we cry Abba, work of the Spirit.

Spirit in the heart cannot contradict the Spirit of the Word. Moves us closer to God. Conforms our wills more.

For sincere believers, they like having their hearts searched. For unbelievers, that is terrifying. Also for superficial Christians. Intercession of the Spirit and intercession of Jesus at the Right Hand is always according to God's Will. What more could He have done?

Jesus says if we ask the Father, he will give us what we need. Spirit leads us to ask what we should. Those that love God make the best use of all this. We are called according to His purposes. Not ours. Also not of our merits. All the experiences; all the providences of God. Work to our benefit.

Those that are called are justified and glorified. Not on our merits.

V 31: So after all this, what should we say? What does it mean? If He did not spare His own Son, He will stand with us. We should be comforted and encouraged by all of this that he wrote before. What enemy can come against us? God is for us! We have promises. He stands with us; engaged against enemies. So, how can they prevail against us.

Because of the cross, Satan is defeated, triumphed over. World cannot overcome us.

V32: Based on the Cross. God did not spare His own Son. Our hopes are built on this. Promises are built on this. Father was willing to do this. Delivered Him up for us. If He did that, why would He hold back anything else. (Abraham and Isaac). Did not spare His own Son so He could spare us!

Who will bring a charge against us - the Law?, Satan? He justifies us! If man tries to justify himself, like the Pharisees, he still stands guilty. But God justifies us! If He justifies, the who can condemn us? He is the offended party, but He justifies. Jesus at the Right Hand making constant intercession. Banner over us is Love! The infinite merit of His Death frees us. The Resurrection is the ultimate proof and sign. Our friend and brother is the Judge! We should be encouraged.

So...who can separate us from His Love? The enemies can try all they want.

Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

Persecution is there all the time. Ps 44:22

Even though; we are more than conquerors. Jesus conquered by the Cross. Martyrs baffled their persecutors. Rev 12:11- they overcame by the Blood of the Lamb. We gain everything without casualties the a conqueror would have.

We are more than conquerors not in our own strength but through Christ and the Spirit. He has overcome the world. John 16:33.

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Strong and confident. No doubt in his mind. He understands and has experienced these Truths. Jesus is the mediator of the Love between God and Man.

