

March 2, 2023

Romans Lesson 8

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The believer's position in Christ:

*"As a believer, I have been saved from the *penalty of sin*, I am being saved from the *power of sin*, and in the future, I will be saved from the *presence of sin*."*

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— Satan is “the accuser of our brethren.”
Rev 12:10; Job 1:9-11; Zech 3:1-2

Ephesians 6:10-17
“The armor of God”

“In addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.”
Ephesians 6:16



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Romans 8:3-4

“What the law could not do [that is, condemn sin, break its power], in that it was weak through the flesh [that is, because it had to depend upon sinful human nature to carry out its precepts], God [by] sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, condemned sin [that is, broke its power; brought its authority to an end] in [through] the flesh” (v.3). This condemnation of sin was to the end “that the ordinance of the law [that is, the righteous demands of the law] might be fulfilled [carried out] in us, who walk not after the flesh [our fallen, sinful nature], but after the Spirit.” (v.4)

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Romans 8:3

- The law was weak as it was through the flesh.
- God sent His own Son “in the likeness of sinful flesh.”

Note the wording in this verse. It is NOT:

- “in sinful flesh” = would make Jesus a sinner; NOR
- “in the likeness of flesh” = would make Jesus not fully human; BUT
- “in the likeness of sinful flesh” = He took on human flesh (became fully man), but without sin!

- In so doing, He condemned (judged & sentenced) sin in the flesh.

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Walking according to the flesh = allowing one’s life to be controlled by one’s sinful, human nature; controlled by the physical; everything done, whether good or bad, is done in disregard to God.

Walking according to the Spirit = following His leading; walking according to the new nature of a believer and thus being controlled by the Spirit; everything is done for God’s glory.

Gal 5:16-25 Good description of the two “walks”

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Romans 8:4-9 Flesh contrasted with Spirit

v.4 “**walk** according to the **flesh**...according to the **Spirit**”

v.5 “according to the **flesh set their minds** on the things of the **flesh**”
“according to the **Spirit**, the things of the **Spirit**.”

v.6 “mind set on the **flesh**” = **death**
“mind set on the **Spirit**” = **life and peace**

v.7-8 “mind set on the **flesh**” = **hostile to God**;
does not subject itself to the law of God
not even able to do so
cannot please God

v.9 “**However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you.**”

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Galatians 2:20

“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, **but Christ lives in me**; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.”

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Romans 8:11 Our future hope

1. The resurrection of believers is dependent on the truth of the resurrection of Christ. I Cor 6:14; I Cor 15:13-19.
2. It is the Spirit of Him who raised Christ who will also raise the believers' mortal bodies through the indwelling Spirit. II Cor 4:14; I Thes 4:16-17
3. The indwelling Holy Spirit is the "earnest" of our coming resurrection. II Cor 5:4-5; Eph 1:13-14

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• **II Cor 5:4-5** "For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed but to be clothed, **so that what is mortal will be swallowed up by life.** Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is **God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.**"

• **Eph 1:13-14** "...you were sealed in Him with **the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption** of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory."

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• **Col 3:5-7** "Therefore **consider the members of your earthly body as dead** to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, **and in them you also once walked**, when you were living in them."

• **Gal 5:24-25** "Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have **crucified the flesh with its passion and desires.** If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

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Gal 4:6-7 "**Because you are sons**, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, **crying, 'Abba! Father!'** Therefore, you are no longer a slave, but a son; **and if a son, then an heir through God.**"

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John 15:18,20 Jesus said, “If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you....***If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you....***”

I Pet 4:12-13 “Beloved, ***do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal*** among you...as though some strange thing were happening to you; but to the degree that ***you share the suffering of Christ***, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.”

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Questions to ask myself from Romans 8:

1. Am I walking according to the flesh or according to the Spirit? Am I feeding the flesh or the spirit? Col 3:5-10; Rom 6:12-19
2. Is my mind set on the things of the world or on things which please God? Do I dwell on things that have spiritual benefit? Rom 8:5-9
3. Do I live with an awareness of how temporary this life is and how glorious a future awaits me as a “joint heir” with Jesus? Rom 8:14-17

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