### The Law Reigns over the Man Living in Sin Ch. 7

Romans chapter seven deals with Carnality and the Law. This chapter talks about the old nature always attempting to do wrong, and the new nature always trying to do right. We need to be willing to submit and do what God wants. The end of the chapter talks about the law being holy.

Romans 7:1—K*now ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that* ***the law hath dominion*** *over a man as long as he liveth?*

1. **As long as a person is in sin they are under the law**

Before Salvation we had no choice but to be under the law, now we can be free from the power of sin and the penalty of the broken law.

Romans 7:4—*We must “become dead to the law by the body of Christ”*

Romans 6:14—*sin shall not have dominion…ye are not under the law, but under grace.*

The law dominates the sinner

The person that lives in sin is under the law

As long as a person lives in sin brings forth fruit unto death. 7:5

You **cannot** remain in sin and live under grace

Grace liberates the penitent sinner from the penalty of the broken law

Our identification with Christ liberates us.

Liberated above the power of death 5:6,8,10,12,17,21

Liberated above the power of sin 6:1-2,6-7,10-23

Liberated above the power of the Law 7:1-25

Grace and truth makes you free from sin Rom. 6:18,22; 7:4,6; John 8:32,36

Free From The Penalty of sin

Free From The power of sin

The believer that is dead to sin is dead to transgressing the law Romans 6:11,14;7:4,6; 8:2; Gal. 2:19

The law actually awakens rebellious desires within to convict us 7:5,8

Death to sin changes your relationship with the law 6:4; 7:1-6

Romans 7:1-6 speaks of our death to the Law and the freedom this grants us to be joined to Christ and to produce the fruit of righteousness.

1. **Righteousness in life is impossible through the works of the law.**

Those that were placed by God under law were released from that relation of being a transgressor by sharing in the death of Christ; so that joined to a risen Christ, they bear the fruit of righteousness; and are released from the transgression of the law, they are glad and are willing to serve Him.

1. **The Power of the law is terminated**
   * + 1. Death dissolves the legal obligation of the marriage 1. Between the mind and the carnal works of the flesh. **2.** Between my will and the old unregenerate self **3.** Between my soul and sinfulness
       2. **The meaning of the illustration of 7:1-6**
          1. The wife is the self ”I Myself”
          2. The first husband is our old man, old nature, our unregenerate self.
          3. The death of the first husband is the crucifixion of the old man with Christ. Ac 13:38-39; Rom. 3:25; 5:21; 6:6; 7:4; 2Co 5:15; Gal. 1:4; 2:20; 5:24; 6:14; Eph 4:22; 5:2; Col 2:11; 3:5,9; Titus 2:14; Heb 9:15; 1Pe1:21; 4:2; 1John 2:2; 4:10
          4. The wife is made free through the death of her first husband and became dead to the law of that first husband so like the soul made free by the crucifixion of the old man and thereby made dead to its law.
       3. **The Union with Jesus Christ**
          1. “Know ye not “ The old life is baptized into His death 6:3
          2. “Know ye not” The old service is broken off, destroyed through Christ. 6:16
          3. “Know ye not” The old union is impossible with the new union with Christ. 7:1

**Rom. 5**, (2) Heads-Adam /Christ; **6**, (2) Masters-Sin/Christ**; 7**, (2) Husbands**-**oldman/Risen Christ

* + - 1. Fruitfulness: Union with Christ enables us to bring forth fruit.
         1. Our union with sin disabled us unto death. Rom.1:32; 6:21; 7:5; Gal.5:19-21
         2. Union with Christ enables us to bring forth fruit of Righteousness unto Holiness. Rom.1:13; 5:3-5; 6:22; John 15:2,4,5,8,16; I Cor. 1:6; Gal. 5:22-23; Eph 5:9; Php 1:11; 4:17; Col 1:6,10; Titus 3:14; Heb. 12:11; 13:15; James 3:18; 5:7; II Pe. 1:3-9
      2. Service: From union and fruitfulness will come Service - Rom.7:6
         1. Serve with newness of life 6:4
         2. Serve in newness of Spirit 7:6
         3. Serve with new power Ro.1:16; 8:11; 1Co 6:14; 2Co 13:4; II Thess.1:11
         4. Serve as a new creature II Cor. 5:17; Gal.6:15

1. The Law and sin
   1. The law reveals the fact of sin Rom.7: 7, 8; Col. 3:5; I Thess. 4:5

I had not known “lust” – {Coveting (not the full extent) a longing (especially for what is forbidden):--concupiscence} except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

* 1. The law reveals the occasion of sin. 8

Ro 4:15 Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression. Ro 7:8 But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead. 9 For I was alive without the law once: but **when the commandment came, sin revived**, and I died.

* 1. The law reveals the power of sin 9 Under the law, a man becomes condemned to death because of sin.
  2. The law reveals the deceitfulness of sin. 11

Sin takes advantage of us and deceives us, The law of God is known in different ways: the ceremonial laws, the social laws, natural laws, moral laws and health laws.

The Jews believed you had to keep all of those laws to become holy. By the time of Paul's ministry, the rabbis had summed up all of the Old Testament law into 613 commandments. It is impossible to keep them all, especially since they had strained at the laws beyond the intention of God.

* 1. The law reveals the effect of sin. 10-11
     1. The effect of all sin is a spiritual death.
     2. The outcome of dying physically with unrepented sin is eternal separation from God.

Through the inability to fulfill the law the sinner becomes condemned to death under the law. A commandment cannot give life, but it can convict you of sin through the sentence of death and cause you to repent and seek Eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

* 1. The law reveals the sinfulness of sin. 12-13
* The Law is Holy, Just and good, so as the standard, the plumb-line, the commandment shows us where and what we are in the sight of God; sin is shown for what it is “exceeding sinful”. Far off from the mark that God has set for us in Christ.
* The law is intended to convict the sinner of sin and only through Christ find repentance.
* The law condemns, convicts, constrains and conducts an awakened sinner to Christ. Rom. 3:19,23; 7:8-11; 8:3; Gal.3:19-24 ( Judge, warden, executioner, conductor)
  1. There are four laws to observe
     1. Law of God – the moral law of God written and unwritten
     2. Law of sin – reigns in the unsaved.
     3. Law of the mind – moral sense of a man
     4. Law of the members – leads individual to falling under law of sin

Romans 7:7-13, Paul establishes the goodness of God’s Law and the wickedness of sin. Romans 7:14-25, Paul brings us to the root of the problem, the cause of our constant defeat by sin: our own flesh, the “**body of this death**” (verse 24).

Every believer is privileged, enabled and obligated to live a holy life.

For those resting in the law, as sufficient for justification and sanctification, it is necessary to convince them of their error.

The law is insufficient for justification but Grace and righteousness of Jesus Christ is sufficient.

A believing Jew is discharged from his obligations to the ceremonial rituals of the law, and is at liberty to come under the Gospel of God through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, Ro 7:1-4.

* Ro 7:5 the state of a Jew, is seen in the flesh serving sin, considered as being under law.

De 27:26; 28:15; Ps 119:21; Jer 11:3; Ga 3:10

* The curses were proclaimed principally to secure obedience to the commandments.
* The curses were never meant to destroy the individual but produce repentance.
* In Ro 7:6 The state of a Christian living in the newness of the Spirit, not breaking the law, but living by the advantage of grace through faith in the Gospel above sin rather than under the law, in the oldness of the letter, sinning, transgressing and always failing.
* Paul now moves from the law of sin and draws illustration from the Mosaic Law. As a man is bound to his wife so long as they both live, so does the law having binding power over a person as long as they live in the flesh.
* Death looses a man or wife from their spouse, as an individual from the law of sin.

We cannot serve God while in the flesh for we are bound by the law of nature to sin. The flesh is the enemy of God and cannot be made subservient to Him. The only freedom from sin is to be found in death of the carnal man. When he dies then are we free to marry another.

The main theme of chapter seven is the believer’s relation to the law. The believer is united with Christ “the new husband.” When we are born we are bound to the law like as a marriage. To be free from the law, because the law will never die or change we must die. We become dead to the law by the body of Christ, which allows us to marry him that is raised from the dead, even Jesus Christ. We are delivered from the law to serve God in the newness of the Spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.

7:7 The believer is not made holy by the law. The law shows how sinful the carnal nature is. We become aware of sin when we become aware of the law.

The law is holy and good but sin worked death in us. There are two natures in every believer. In my spirit I can know what is good but my flesh will always fight against it. The real struggle begins when we are saved and have a desire to obey. Our desire to do right can be overpowered by the carnal nature if we allow sin in our lives. Just having a desire to do good is not enough we need the power of Grace and Truth to overcome the law of sin. It is Jesus Christ who delivers us from the power of sin.

Romans 7:13 Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become **exceeding sinful**

1. **As long as a person is obedient to the Word of God they are under Grace**
   1. **The Law of God is Spiritual**
   2. **Sin is evil-“exceeding sinful”**
   3. **The flesh is weak, carnal and wrestling**
2. **The inner struggle before deliverance**
   1. **Two natures at war against each other**
      1. **The old carnal nature - in the flesh**
      2. **The new nature of Christ - in the spirit**

Paul changes from the past tense in verses 7-13 to the present tense in verses 14-25. *“I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said”*

Ro 7:14—*For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin*. Paul speaks of his experience as a non-Christian under conviction in 7:7-13, learning that the law of God has been broken and there is deliverance through Jesus Christ, he now speaks of his experience as a non-Christian needing and wanting that deliverance.7:14-25 Most do not understand what is going on inside of them as a new born Christian.

Every True Born Again Christian has a Conscious experience of the Two Natures Few Christians know of the True Doctrine of the Two Natures. There is much sorrow and discouragement that goes along with having an experience and not being able to fully understand it. For example the new convert is rejoicing in a new found personal experience with Jesus Christ as Saviour; he has turned from sin, the world and the devil and all its evil influences and is seeking to grow in peace love and joy when he is faced with the old forces of sin, fleshly desires and a deceitful heart. (Jer.17:9)

Ro 7:18—*For I know that* ***in me*** *(that is,* ***in my flesh****,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.*

* 1. There is the nature of the flesh

Eph 2:3—*Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.*

* + 1. The nature of the flesh comes by physical birth.

John 3:6—*That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*

* + 1. This fleshly nature is called the old man.

Romans 6:6—*Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.* Eph 4:22—*That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;* Col 3:9*—Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;*

* + 1. This fleshly nature is called the natural man

1Co 2:14—*But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

* + 1. This fleshly nature is called an enemy of God. James 4:4; I Jn. 2:15-17

Ro 8:7—*Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.* {the carnal...: Gr. the minding of the flesh}

* + 1. This fleshly nature has no good in it. (it can’t be changed or improved) Prov.17:20

Ro 7:18—*For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.*

This is the spiritual struggle for every person under conviction that is ignorant of salvation but not ignorant of the law; the power of sin will always win over the flesh until deliverance and right doctrine to fight the fight of faith and take into captivity every negative thought that arises against the knowledge of God. I Tim. 6:12; II Tim. 4:7 2Co 10:4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; 6 And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

* 1. There is the New Nature of Christ
     1. The New spiritual birth begins as a babe in Christ. Mt. 18:3; Mr. 10:15; Ro. 6:4; 1Co. 3:2; 14:20 Heb. 5:13; I Pt.1:23; 2:1-2
     2. The New born babe must be fed divine truth to grow. Deut.8:3; Mat.4:4; Jer.15:16; Jn. 17:8; Gal.6:7-8; I Pt. 1:22,23

1 Peter 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

* 1. The Divine law reveals our responsibility as a believer.
     1. The just shall live by faith. Hab. 2:4; Rom.1:17; Gal.2:20; 3:11; Heb.10:38
     2. Fight the good fight of faith I Tim. 1:18; 6:12; II Tim. 4:7
     3. Put off the old man and put on the new man Eph. 4:22-24
     4. Have no confidence in the flesh. Phil. 3:3; Rom. 7:6
     5. Make not provision for the flesh Rom.13:14
     6. The old nature is dead (**Judicially**) Rom.6:6; Gal.2:20
     7. We are to mortify the deeds of the flesh Col. 3:5

Romans 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

* + 1. The Believer’s Walk of faith
       1. Walk in newness of life
       2. Walk by faith
       3. Walk in Good works
       4. Walk worthy of our vocation and walk worthy of our God
       5. Walk worthy of the Lord
       6. Walk Circumspectly
       7. Walk honestly with all men
       8. Walk in the light
       9. Walk in the truth
       10. Walk with Him after the commandments
       11. Walk with Him in white

Paul begins by stating that the problem is not with the Law of God but with his own flesh (7:14-16). He then shows the problem is sin and not just weak flesh (7:17-23). Sin is evil “**exceeding sinful”** the flesh is weak.

Paul is describing his own personal struggle with sin before he understood deliverance

IV. The inability of the flesh Rom. 7:14-25

In Romans 7 the “I” is mentioned thirty two times In Romans 7 the “law” is mentioned twenty three times.

The life of the Spirit is spoken of once in 7:6 “now we are delivered from the law” and dead to the law “we should serve in newness of spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.”

In Romans 8 the “Spirit” is mentioned twenty times

This is the most dramatic testimony of Paul’s struggle with sin. Paul’s struggle is a deeply personal struggle, with sin and with his own flesh. It is a war within. It is a war which results from being under conviction, a war which did not exist until he was convicted of breaking the law.

Paul is not able to understand or to precisely analyze his own struggle with sin until the deliverance is revealed in Romans 8:1-39. The solution to the Christian’s struggle with sin is explained in Romans 8. The struggle is described in Romans 7. While we are eager to hear God’s solution, we must first be convinced of the seriousness of the problem. Drastic situations require drastic measures of correction.

This is Saul of Tarsus’ testimony. He was a man that was blameless concerning the law, but yet found sin to be his master.

The things he would like to do he could not, and the things that he did not want to do he did.

Paul isn’t presenting this as the condition of the Believer where we just have to sin a little every day. No! Paul cries out in testimony for deliverance.

*O wretched man that I am! who shall* ***deliver*** *me from the body of this death?* That is he sees beyond this weak condition a promise of something better.

There is an ancient custom of certain tyrants, who bound a dead body to a living man, and made him to carry the dead body, until it took away his life!”

Paul is painting a startling picture in order to awaken his readers to the reality of the gruesomeness of sin. This picture of a dead body bound to a man is the parallel to verse 25, *I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin*.

For so is the condition of the regenerated man however good his intentions may be.

Deliverance, Salvation and Redemption is only By Grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

* + - * 1. The Conflict between the law and the sinner 7:14-25

Why professing Christians struggle so.

They don’t understand what the law of God is doing for them nor what the law of sin is doing to them.

Ro 7:1— *Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?*

* + - 1. The Apostle Paul instructs brethren of how to deal with those still struggling in sin.

4*—Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ…*

* 14 “the law is spiritual” 16 “law…is good” 22 “I delight in the law of God… inward man”
  + - 1. The Apostle Paul demonstrates the insufficiency of the law
         1. Those he was writing unto had been enlightened to the knowledge of God.

1,14,16,22

* + - * 1. The unregenerate are still under the law. 14-24

The saved are under Grace 6:14

The sinner is under the law 6:14

They approve of the law 7:14,16

Yet they serve sin – law has not the power to deliver 7:14

14 “I am carnal, sold under sin.” 17 “sin that dwelleth in me”

18 “I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing”…” how to perform that which is good I find not”

20 “sin that dwelleth in me” 21 “evil is present with me”

23 “the law of sin which is in my members” 24 “O wretched man that I am!”

25 “with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin”

Ro 7:25—*I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.*

* + - 1. The Apostle Paul determines deliverance only through Jesus Christ
         1. Redemption is a work of Grace
         2. Sin is universal an incurable corruption without the cleansing power of the blood of Jesus.
         3. There is no deliverance by the law.
         4. Deliverance is only through Jesus Christ our Lord
         5. The Conflict between the flesh and the law of sin. 7:23-25

**The Battle Within**

Romans 7:23—*But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.*

**The Battle is Won or Lost in the Mind**

1. The battle for the mind
   1. The devil is after your mind
      1. *“warring against the law of my mind”*
      2. We can’t win on our own we are in captivity to the law of sin without Christ.
         1. The Devil attacked Eve’s mind—Eve lost
         2. The Devil attacked Christ’s mind—Christ won
   2. The devil is making prisoners
      1. *“bringing me into captivity”*
      2. Without Jesus Christ all men are taken captive
         1. The devil takes advantage of you as you sin.
         2. The devil can’t resist the Grace of God In your life.
   3. The devil battles through a sinful nature
      1. “*the law of sin which is in my members”*
      2. *You can’t stop your sinning on your own.*
         1. The devil is judged by the laws of God.
         2. The works of the devil are destroyed by the Grace of God.

Romans 7:24—*O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?*

**The Body of this Death is our own corrupt self**

1. Delivered from sin unto Victorious living
   1. “*O wretched man that I am”*
      1. The Carnal Nature is as leaven
      2. The old Nature is a Rebel
      3. The self life is a tyrant
         1. An evil snare
            1. Enslaving and destroying
         2. A Heavy weight
            1. Laboring , wandering and Wallowing in sin

Romans 7:25—*I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.*

* 1. “*who shall deliver me”*
     1. The Character of the Body of this death
        1. Dead, Selfish, Wretched and unregenerate.
     2. The Course of the self life
        1. Discourage, deceive and destroy.
     3. The Cure of the self life
        1. Must come to the realization you need deliverance and salvation.
        2. Must realize you can’t deliver, nor save yourself.

The law can’t save you.

* + - 1. Only Jesus can save a soul from sin and deliver from carnality.

Why do God’s laws arouse our sinful desires?

Romans 7:7-25

Because sin in us seizes the opportunity and becomes:

**A sharpshooter**, picking the best times and places for a kill

**A magnet**, creating an attraction as the object comes near

**A temptress**, working seduction at the point of need

**A lawyer**, trapping a victim in his won arguments

**An engineer**, building elaborate traps

**An army**, occupying undefended areas in our morality

**A guerrilla**, instigating rebellion behind the scenes

The main theme of chapter seven is the believer’s relation to the law. The believer is united with Christ “the new husband.” When we are born we are bound to the law like as a marriage. To be free from the law, because the law will never die or change we must die. We become dead to the law by the body of Christ, which allows us to marry him that is raised from the dead, Christ. We are delivered from the law to serve God in the newness of the Spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter. In the next section beginning in verse seven Paul shows that the believer is not made holy by the law. The law shows how sinful the carnal nature is. I became aware of sin when I became aware of the law. The law is holy and good but sin worked death in me. The last section shows the battle of the two natures. In my spirit I can know what is good but my flesh will always fight against it. The real struggle begins when are saved and have a desire to do well. Our desire to do right can be overpowered by carnal nature if we allow sin in our lives. Just having a desire to do good is not enough we need power to overcome the law of sin. It is Jesus Christ who delivers us from the power of sin but we will always have a battle with our flesh.

**What is your mind-set?** Your mind-set will determine how you act. It will motivate you and influence who or what you will choose as a source of knowledge and authority. It will affect a person view of your experiences and will shape your value system. It will dominate your private and public life.

**A sinful mind-set** will bring death, with hostility toward God, and resistance to any form of submission. It will also show actions and attitudes that will not please God. “Let this mind be in you which is also in Christ Jesus “Phil. 2:5.

**A spiritual mind-set** will produce life and peace with God and man. It will produce friendship with God. There will be obedience to the Spirit’s influence, being led by the Holy Spirit of God. You will have a love of God and also your neighbor. Knowing and following the word of God will be important in your life.

What is the Law? The law was a school master to lead us to Christ Jesus. Gal. 3:24-25. The law was why the services of the sanctuary were performed. If there were no sin, the need of a sacrifice would not be needed. A transgression of the law therefore needed a sacrifice to pay the dept of sin. **Rev. 11:19** It states that John saw in his vision of the tabernacle of God in heaven, the law. Heaven was the **place for safekeeping** of the law of God **Rev. 15:5**.

The city of David was the place that God has chosen to make his abode. It contained the Temple of God. Inside the temple was the Holy place and beyond the vail was the Holiest of Holies which held the ark, inside the ark was the tables of stone upon which God had written the Ten Commandments, the oracles of God. This was the law of God and was a revelation to men as to how God wanted man to act. Without the law the temple services were without meaning. The law being a reproduction of the perfection of God and his nature. **So what is so important in the Law and what is the law?** *It is called the perfect law of liberty.* God’s word says that the law has made me wiser than my enemies: for they are ever with me. **We are told to meditate on the Law of God....Ps. 119: 127, 129. 98, 99, 96.**

Exodus 20; 24:12; 31:18.

The Ten Commandments were given to Moses on Mt. Sinai, and placed in the ark under the mercy seat. Ex. 25:16,21.

**The Ten Commandments are:**

1. *“I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.* **Thou shalt have not other gods before Me.**

2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any **graven image**, or any likeness of any thing that is in heavens above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: **for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God**, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that **despise (hate) Me;** and showing mercy unto thousands of them that **show commitment to (love) Me,** *and keep My commandments*.

3. **Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in unfruitful, empty, (vain); for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in uselessness (vain).**

4. **Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.** Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, not thy stranger that is within thy gates; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hollowed it.

End of God’s statements about how we are to serve him. Now he deals with how we are to treat others.

5. **Honor thy father and thy mother;** that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord they God giveth thee.

6. **Thou shalt not kill.** Can I kill someones spirit, how could I do this?

7. **Thou shalt not commit adultery**. What do you consider adultery?

8. **Thou shalt not steal.** But I am only taking what is mine!

9. **Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.** Who is my neighbor?

10. **Thou shalt not covet they neighbor’s** house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor’s. Ex. 20:2- 17.

**It is impossible to have a civilization without these laws.**

What are our duties to God? They are explained in the first four commandments. The last six commandments define what man is to do to his fellow men. The two great commandments are to love God and also to love man. Matthew 22:37-40

Romans 7:12 “The Law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.” (Eccl. 12:13)

**Who are the people of God?** Spiritual Israel is anyone that is born again. The law is the foundation of the government of God. All who are born again must follow the rule of government, which is the law of God. Does god change the law for men or men ideas of what is right and wrong? He is not changed the law at all, but fulfilled the ritual law, and paid the price for our sins.

**ROMANS CHAPTER 7**

**Theme**: Righteousness in life impossible through works of law.

**In Chapter 7 we have two sections:**

**I**. **Verses 1 - 6**:

In this first section, God shows how those that were placed by Him under the law were released from that

relation by sharing in the deathof Christ; so that, joined to a risen Christ, they bear fruit; and released

from law, they are glad and willing to serve Him.

**II**. **Verses 7 - 25**:

In the second section, we have Paul describing his struggle under the law, as a converted Israelite,

before he knew the great facts of this first part - that in Christ he was dead to the law.

The Apostle Paul reminds his Jewish brethren of the great principle, that the power of the law is terminated, and uses the illustration of a wife who has been freed by the death of her husband to marry another. The main thought is death dissolves legal obligation and that on the death of her husband a wife is legally free to contract another marriage.

**Meaning of the passage and illustration:**

Verses 1 - 6: 1. The wife is the self or personality which is the same under all conditions of existence:

"I Myself"

2. The first husband (Rom. 6:6) is our old man, our unregenerated self: and as long as

he was alive we were under his law.

3. The death of the first husband - is the crucifixion of the "Old Man" with Christ (6:6)

4. The wife is set free through her first husbands death and thereby became dead to

the law of that husband. This is a picture of the soul set free by the crucifixion of

the old man and thereby made dead to its law.

NOTE: The first marriage was between the mind "and the flesh", between the "I myself" and our old

unregenerate being.

The second, we were united to Christ in His death.

**The Law itself is "Holy and Righteous and Good"**

- Holy because it discloses sin

- Righteous because it condemns the sinner

- Good because of its spiritual purpose

**The Law is like a plumb-line:**

It shows where and what we are in the sight of God. It is intended to constrain and conduct the awakened, condemned sinner to Christ. The Law then becomes the conductor to Christ in order that we may be justified by faith.

**The Law is a schoolmaster - to teach and instruct:**

The inability of the flesh 7:14 - 25

The key to the meaning of this entire section is found in the repetition of "I" thirty times in the chapter, without a single mention of the Holy Spirit. It indicates what "I" am struggling to do, and utterly fail to do in my own strength.

NOTE: In Chapter 7 the Law is mentioned 20 times

In Chapter 8 the Holy Spirit is mentioned 20 times

**We see three confessions in this section of the Chapter:**

I. The First Confession: Verse 14, "For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin."

The 2 words in the Greek for carnal

- one implying that which is purely material

- the other implying that which is ethical

The former suggests man's nature as weak.

The latter suggests man's character as sinful.

II. The Second Confession: Verses 18 - 20, "In my flesh swelleth no good thing."

Here we see Paul describing a struggle. In him so far as his person was carnal, there dwelt no good thing,

though of course there was something more in him besides the flesh.

III. The Third Confession: Verses 21 - 25,

"I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me."

He is ever conscious of moral contraction and conflict within. He has a desire to do good and yet an evil is

always present.

PARALLEL:

On the one hand the inward man is delighted in God's law. On the other hand he saw a different law in his

members warring against the law of his mind and bringing him into a spiritual bondage.

NOTE: The "inward man" is not the same as "the new man", nor is the mind ever used of the renewed nature.

It is the immaterial part of man.

**What are the 4 Laws mentioned in Verses 21 - 22?**

1. Law of God - (moral law - written or unwritten)

2. Law of Sin - (reigns since fall of man)

3. Law of Mind - (moral sense of man)

4. Law of Members - (leads individual to falling under law of sin)

**CONCLUSION of Chapter 7:**

Verse 24: CRY OF AGONY AND CONFLICT

"O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"

The body of this death - what a fearful description of the body! Unredeemed, unchanged, under the

law of sin in all its members. No matter what the "delight" of the quickened human spirit in the

things of God may be, to dwell undelivered in such a body is to find it a "body of death".

Verse 25: "I thank God, (for deliverance) through Jesus Christ our Lord"

(We need a renewed mind)

**SUMMARY of Chapter 7:** (Paul discovered)

1. That sin dwelt in him - though he delighted in God's law.

2. That his will was powerless against it.

3. That the sinful self wsa not his real self.

4. That there is a difference through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The law is representative of security, stability, faithfulness, uniformity, equality. Absence of the law produces chaos, with its attendant evils. *If the laws of nature were to stop what would be the results?* End of the world and everything colliding together would be the results of the end of the law of nature.

### Walking after the Spirit is Liberty Ch. 8

#### 8:1-9 No Condemnation

#### 8:10-16 Mortify the Deeds of the Body, Ye shall Live

#### 8:17-25 Hope of Adoption as Joint Heirs

#### 8:26-28 The Spirit Helps our Infirmities

#### 8:29-30 The Hope of Glorification

#### 8:31-39 None Shall Stand Against Us, It is God that Justifies

Romans chapter eight deals with our position in Christ. We are free from sin and death. The sufferings we go through are to teach us our motives. The end of the chapter deals with the Christian’s Hope, which is; “If God be for us who can be against us.” And that we are more than conquerors and that all things work together for good.

The deliverance Paul cried for in 7:24 has arrived in 8:1. The quality of life before regeneration of the religious has gruesome parallels, but the new man in Christ experiences great liberty. No longer condemned to die as the man bound to the corpse, for *there is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit*.

The law of sin brought bondage, but the Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has worked great liberty! **OUR POSITION IN CHRIST is free from condemnation.**

Let us look at the nature of the “Law of the Spirit of Life.”

1. Provides justification where the old law only condemned.
2. Works liberty where the old law only worked bondage.
3. It is a stronger law doing what the old law could not do in its weakness.
4. It has been made flesh and identified with the sinful; the old law could only stand from a distance as a school master with a pointed finger.
5. This law works righteousness in the Believer; the old law could only identify unrighteousness.
6. This life is subject to the law of God, whereas the flesh is not and cannot be for it is an enemy of God.

Let us look at the fulfilling of this “Life.”

1. It is fulfilled in the one that walks not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
2. Also, in those that mind the things of the Spirit, and not the things of the flesh. *For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*
3. It is pleasing to God, but they that are in the flesh cannot please God.
4. If the Spirit of God dwell in you then His life is fulfilled in you, for you are no longer trying to serve God in the flesh, but have the Spirit of Christ to inspire and insure life.
5. This life is not your own, but is Christ’s life. Galatians 2:20 *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me*.
6. The fruit of this Life is righteousness. Christ in you makes your body dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.
7. This Life is not debtor to the flesh, but to God to serve Him and obey Him.
8. This Life is fulfilled in mortifying the deeds of the body.

**The Spiritual Mind is Life and Peace**

Romans 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

It makes a difference what you think. Mindset It makes a difference how you think. Meditation It makes a difference what you dwell on. Motive Peace isn’t absence of trouble or danger but Peace is being in the presence of God 2Thess. 3:16 Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.

* Are we spiritually minded?
* Or are we carnally minded? (self motivated)

Do our thoughts dwell on carnal things – the everyday needs – the daily grind –routine-schedule- performance-play-pleasure-the satisfying of our wants and desires?

Luke 10:40—*But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.* 41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Or are we truly spiritually minded? (The Will of God)

* Is our mindset in tune with the Lord?
* Is our thinking in alignment with the Word of God?
* Is our walk right with God?

1. Dwelling on the Word of God - Do our hearts dwell on the things in Ro. 8?

Rom. 8:1—*There is therefore now* ***no condemnation*** *to them which are in Christ Jesus****,*** *who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

1. No Condemnation to sentence you. 31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? **no fear of accusation**
2. No Accusation to sway you

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? …37 **Nay**, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1. No Separation to stop you. We separate ourselves by not obeying the truth 8:1— “walk not after the flesh” 8:4— “walk not after the flesh” 8:5—“they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh” 8:6—“For to be carnally minded is death” 13— “ye shall die” 8:7—Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8: 8—So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.
2. No defeat to slaughter or to slump you.

No intermission—“ all the day long” I Cor.15:30-31; 4:9-11; 2Co 4:10-11

1. The Holy Ghost dwelling in you

8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the **Spirit of God dwell in you**. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. 11 But if **the Spirit** of him that raised up Jesus from the dead **dwell in you**, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that **dwelleth in you.** 2Co 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for **ye are the temple of the living God**; as God hath said, I will **dwell** in them, and **walk** in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

1. Walking after the Spirit.
2. Be obedient to the Word in all things

Ro 8:1—*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.* Col 3:16—*Let* ***the word of Christ dwell in you*** *richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.* John 14:23—*Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our* ***abode*** *with him.* 15:7—*If ye abide in me, and my words* ***abide*** *in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.*

1. *Be subject to the Spirit in all things—FOLLOW*
2. *Be led by the Spirit in all things—WALK WITH HIM*

Ro 8:28—*And we know that all things work together for good to them that* ***love God****, to them* ***who are the called*** *according to* ***his purpose****.* 14:17—*For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost*. 14:19—*Let us therefore* ***follow*** *after the things which make for peace, and* ***things*** *wherewith one may* ***edify*** *another.*

1. Righteousness and Peace work together
2. Through a Disciplined Prayer life Ro 8:26,27
3. Through a Dedicated Mind

Ro 8:2—*For the law of the Spirit of* ***life******in Christ******Jesus*** *hath* ***made me free*** *from the law of sin and death.*  4*—That* ***the righteousness of the law*** *might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit*. Ro 1:5—*By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for* ***obedience to the faith*** *among all nations, for his name:* 16:26—*But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the* ***obedience of faith****:* 2Co 10:5—*Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the* ***obedience of Christ****;*

Romans eight sets forth that part in our salvation which is exercised by the third person of the Godhead, the blessed Holy Ghost. Without Christ's work on the cross there would be no salvation, and without the presence and constant operation of the Holy Ghost, there would be no application of that salvation to us.

1. V. Righteousness in life is possible through power of the Holy Ghost Romans 8:1 - 11

8: 1 Now (justified - sin dealt with) there is no condemnation. 8:2 We were condemned, but now FREE from condemnation in Christ Jesus.

In - (preparation) we are positionally in Christ Positioned - (in Christ) law of the Spirit In old nature - law of sin and death

8:3 The law could not do many things. It could not make men good. 8:4 The righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us. We are not to walk after the flesh, but after the spirit.

8: 5-8 Contrast of the carnal mind with that of the spiritual mind

* 1. The carnal mind produces death
     1. Immoral, evil, violent, worldly, selfish and lust of the flesh
     2. Moral, cultured, centered around self and lust of the eyes
     3. Self-righteous, religious, good works and the pride of life.
  2. The spiritual mind produces life
     1. A Renewed spiritual mind kept on the truth. Faith
     2. A Restored mind restoring others. Hope
     3. A Transformed mind Love

8:10 The body is dead because of sin, The spirit is life because of righteousness.

1. **The Christian believer is made alive by the Holy Ghost.**

8:11 But if the spirit dwells in you, he shall quicken your mortal bodies.

* Quicken - vitalize - bring to life – make alive

1. The Spirit gives life by freeing the believer from sin and death.
2. The Spirit gives life by doing what the law could not do.
3. The Spirit gives life by condemning sin in the flesh.
4. The Spirit gives life by Christ providing Righteousness for us.
5. **Completed Righteousness**, the redemption of our body. BECAUSE OF ADOPTION8:12 - 23

8:12 We are debtors to life - we are obligated and beholding 8:13 Not after the flesh, But through the spirit

What new things are revealed about Christian life, the life according to the spirit?

* 8:14 "For as many as are led by the spirit" “led” (controlled) by the spirit. Divine Guidance is the scriptural evidence of Maturity and Sonship.

There is a difference between Divine guidance and natural reasoning, circumstances or impressions.

Sons of God - "Sons" means adult sons - sons come of age

Two total separate spirits are contrasted in 8:15

8:15 1. We have not received the spirit of bondage. No longer under the law.

2. "We have received the spirit of adoption."

8:14-30 Adoption

We are introduced here to a deeper concept which is adoption, the manifestation of the sons of God. We understand that every man is BORN into the family of God, so what is this adoption all about? Adoption has to do with placing the fully matured and fully developed into Sonship. This thought combined with the *manifestation of the sons of God* speak of God’s ultimate plan in salvation. He is desirous to have many sons like His only Son. We often refer to this plan as *End Time Salvation.*

End Time Salvation

*End Time Salvation* is God’s plan of salvation in its totality, salvation to the uttermost, of the whole man—body, soul, and spirit—which in time past was not an available provision because of the appropriateness of time. It is now made available to us living in the end times (or, *the time of the end*).

It is communicated throughout Scripture through many different thoughts. Listed below are some of the thoughts included in *End Time Salvation*:

End Time Deliverance Full salvation Apolutrosis: Complete State of Release

Adoption: The Placing of Sons

One Hundred Fold Christian Full Grown Manifestation of the Sons of God

Fully Mature Sons of God Perfect Man

The Bride of Christ Overcomer Completeness of Personality

Completeness of Sanctification Man-child

**The first of the most needed messages of the bible!!!**

*“the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me* ***free*** *from the law of sin and death”*Ro 8:1—*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*  2*—For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.*

1. **Freed by the Law of the Spirit of life from the law of sin and death**
2. There are three laws mentioned here.
   1. The Law of the Spirit of Life 8:2
      1. This law is greater than the law of sin and death.
      2. It is the life of Jesus imparted to the believer by faith.
      3. It is the law that makes you free from sin and death.
         1. Knowing the Truth of the law of the Spirit of life makes you free to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.
         2. Liberty is man’s born again state.
         3. Serving the Lord brings more abundant life.
         4. Every believer must manifest the Life of Jesus more and more unto Sonship.
   2. The law of sin and death 8:2
      1. It is like the law of gravity always pulling you down
      2. It opposes that which is good and Godly.
      3. Brings you into bondage and condemnation
         1. Bondage to sin makes you a servant to Satan.
         2. Serving the law of sin brings death.
   3. The Law of God 8:3-7
      1. It is Righteous, good and Holy.
      2. It opposes sin and the works of the flesh
      3. It brings you to conviction and decision
      4. The law being weak cannot save but can point the way to Christ.
      5. Obedience to the law is liberty but can only be done through Jesus Christ
      6. The Righteousness of the law is fulfilled in us through following Christ by the leading of the Holy Ghost.
3. **The Importance of Righteous Works through Faith 8:10-13**
   1. Christ Works 8:10

Ro 8:10—*And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness*.

* + 1. “*And if Christ be in you*”
       1. “*the body is dead because of sin”*
       2. “*the Spirit is life because of righteousness”*
    2. Christ’s Life
    3. Christ’s Righteousness
    4. Christ in us and His life and Righteousness abounding in us is proof of our faith and proof of Christ’s works within us.

Ro 8:11—*But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.*

* 1. The Holy Ghost’s Work 8:11
     1. The Holy Ghost raised Jesus from the dead
     2. The Holy Ghost dwells in the fire baptized believer.
     3. The Holy Ghost quickens the mortal body of those He dwells in.
     4. The mortal body that is subject to death is made alive by the Holy Ghost
  2. The Believer’s Work 8:12-13

Ro 8:12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. 13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

* + 1. “we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh”
    2. Every believer is a debtor to Truth

“but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live”

* + 1. Every believer is a debtor to Christ
    2. Every believer is a debtor to witness to lost souls

1. **Sonship 8:14-23**

Ro.1:4“The Spirit of Holiness” 8:2“The Spirit of life in Christ Jesus” 8:9“The Spirit of God” 8:11 “The Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead” 14 “The Spirit of God” (15 “The spirit of bondage”) 15 “The Spirit of Adoption”

11:8 “The spirit of slumber” 15:19 “The Power of the Spirit”

1. Manifested Son’s 8:14-23
   * + 1. The meaning of Manifested Son’s
          1. Manifested---apokalupsis, ap-ok-al'-oop-sis

Disclosure:--appearing, coming, lighten, be revealed, revelation, To take off the cover.

* 1. It is a Revelation
     1. They are now hidden – in obscurity
        1. Like Israel in Egypt
        2. There is a time for Revelation
        3. Longing for something better
  2. It is a Maturing
     1. A growing up Eph.4:13-15
        1. We are children by faith Gal. 3:26
        2. We need to grow up Gal. 4:1-3
        3. We are in the process of growing
  3. It is a Deliverance
     1. First to the Overcomer I Pt.1:3-5
     2. Then to Creation Rom.8:20-22
        1. The Time of the Manifesting of the Son’s of God
           1. Appointed of the Father Gal.4:2

In these last days I Pt. 1:4-5

Not according to man’s desire

Not according to the flesh

No fleshly revelation

No fleshly prophecy

No fleshly preaching

No fleshly praying

No fleshly living

Not a premature birth

Not a fleshly birth

Not a child of the flesh

According to the truth

In respect of conception (normal – sound doctrine)

In respect to birth

In respect to maturity

* + - 1. The Purpose of the Manifested Son’s
         1. To loosen Creation 8:19-22
         2. To Complete Redemption 8:23
         3. To Glorify God’s Son 8:17-18

To Reveal His Son to us by His Spirit

To Reveal His Son in us by His Spirit

To have many Son’s like His only Son

To have more Son’s like Jesus

To be same in Nature II Pt. 1:4

Righteousness Rom.1:17; 5:21; 6:16; Eph. 4:24

Holiness Ro1:4;6:19,22; IThes.3:13;4:7; He12:10,14

To be same in obedience

Wisdom Rom.14:33; I Cor. 1:30

Sanctification II Thes. 2:13; I Pt. 1:2

Eph 4:13—*Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:*

1. From slavery to Sonship 8:15-23

Ro 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage (Slavery)again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption,( whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

1397. douleia douleia, doo-li'-ah (slavery)

5206. uioyesia huiothesia, hwee-oth-es-ee'-ah (the placing as a son)

* 1. Requirements for Sonship 12-18
  2. Perfect through Sufferings 8:17
  3. Conformed to the Image of His Son 8:28-30
  4. God’s Eternal Purpose 8:28-30

1. The Redemption of Creation 8:18-23
2. Redemption of the Body 8:23
3. More than Conquerors 8:35-39

1Peter 1:4—*To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,* 5*—Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

Ephesians 4:13—*Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:*

Mat.6:33; Mk. 4:20; Ro. 8:15-23; Eph. 1:13, 14; Colossians 1:22; Hebrews 7:25; Rev. 3:21; 19:7



I Peter 1:5—*Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time*. (*The signs surround us; we are in the “last time*.”)

I Corinthians 2:10 “But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.”

I Peter 1:10-12 “Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.”

Hebrews 11:39,40 “And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.”

Luke 21:28 “And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.” (*Apolutrosis*)

**Paul emphasizes the importance of our relationship with Christ**

8:16 "Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit." The Holy Spirit and our spirit communicate. "We are the children of God"

Children in the natural grow up together as a family; Parents address them as children.

Believers will find themselves calling God "Father" in their prayers and communion. Children - tekna - Begotten of God through His word by Holy Spirit, and are partakers of His nature. Adoption is for Adult - sons - huios

**What the Christian can look forward to.**

8:17 If children - than heirs. We have legal inheritance rights.

8:14 speaks of adult sons.

8:17 speaks of born ones - those who are born of the Word and of the Spirit.

Iv. HOPE OF SUFFERING

Sufferings in comparison to glory. (If we suffer we shall also reign)

8:18 The Glory revealed (in) us.

8:19 "Creature waiteth" Earnest expectation within.

**Hope and faith is part of Christian living.**

8:20 For the creation was subjected to vanity, not of its own will, but by reason of Him who subjected it in hope.

(God has a vast plan, reaching on into eternity, and "hope" lies ahead for creation.)

8:21 "The creature shall be delivered."

From bondage of corruption (although we are new creatures in Christ, yet God has left our bodies as a link with the present creation)

8:24 – 25 Hope - something you know will transpire in your soul.

- Patience - wait for it. (Good things come hard in life)

8:26 Holy Spirit helpeth our infirmities. Our divine helper; Spirit - breath of God

1. Prayer - (spirit prays) understood by God. 2. According to His will - the spirit knows how to pray.

8:27 Jesus our intercessor. - Go between - Mediator 8:28 Providential Care. "All things work together for good" to them that are called.

Called does not mean invited. "the called" are seen to be a company whose mark is neither religious response nor intellectual apprehending, but the electing grace of God.

Called according to His purpose God is infinite; man, a bit of dust

God has a purpose, (a fixed intention) It will come to pass.

**God's major purpose in life of the Christian**

8:29 Predestinate He did also predestinate Fore-Know foreknowledge Predestined to be conformed to His image

**God acts toward the believer.**

8:30 Called: Them He also called (called to be like God) 8:30 Justified:

1. Freed from sin. 2. Positioned in Christ.

8:30 Glorified: Eternal glory - glory revealed in us

V. COMPLETE ASSURANCE (Confidence in God - Security)

**Six Questions**

8:31 What shall we then say? (to these things) 8:31 If God be for us? (Who can be against us) 8: 32 Shall he not freely give us all things? (He spared not His own Son) 8:33 Who shall lay anythings against God's elect? (It is God that justifieth) 8: 34 Who is he that condemneth? (It is Christ that dies, and is risen again) 8:35 Who shall separate us? (From the love of Christ)

Verse 36: Notice 7 Things Tested

1. Tribulations 2. Distress 3. Persecution 4. Famine 5. Nakedness 6. Peril 7. Sword

**Is there anything that can separate us from the love of God?**

8:38 - 39 "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 creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**There is a difference between knowing something and being persuaded of it.**

Persuaded - There is a difference between knowing a truth and being heart persuaded of it.

Paul in his experience, had been through all these trials and tests.

Persuaded - His mind, his conscience, his heart, his whole being, were sublimely committed into God.

"God is love," and the "Father loveth the Son," and those connected with Christ find themselves wrapped in the same eternal affection shown by God to His Dear Son.

**CONCLUSION:**

The 2-fold secret of Christian living is described by two phrases in verse 1 and 10 - "in Christ Jesus" and "if Christ be in you."

The Christian's will is to live in Christ a life pleasing to God. The Holy Spirit dwells in us, empowering us to live such a life.