

Session #25: “THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE LAW”—Romans 8:1-4

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area),

Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email - philtwente@att.net

For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column under “Site Map”

Note: Reference has been made in the following notes to commentaries on Romans by Pastor Chuck Smith, David Hocking and William Newell.

Questions:

- Is there ever condemnation to the believer by Christ Jesus? Romans 8 begins with “no condemnation. What does it end with, “no _____”?
- Does verse one teach that a true believer does not walk after the flesh (living a carnal life) as a habit of life? Is there evidence of the Spirit in your life?
- How did Jesus’ sacrifice of His one life, take the place of all the lives in the world?
- How or through what does God give all believers the ability to what He wants you to do?
- Did Jesus come to do away with the Law or to fulfill it? What about you? Is the righteous requirement of the law fulfilled through you?

THE PRINCIPLES OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD - Romans 1:18-8:39

Principle #1 - CONDEMNATION - 1:18-3:20

Principle #2 - JUSTIFICATION - 3:21-5:21

Principle #3 - SANCTIFICATION - 6:1-7:25

Principle #4 - SECURITY - 8:1-39 (key word is Spirit!)

- **Review of the end of chapter 7 (4 Spiritual Laws):**
1A. THE LAW OF THE FLESH (MEMBERS); 1B. It **BATTLES** my mind; 2B. It **BRINGS** me into bondage (addiction) to sin
2A. THE LAW OF THE MIND - 1B. It **DESIRES** to do good; 2B. It **DELIGHTS** in the law of God
3A. THE LAW OF GOD - 1B. It is **PERFECT**; 2B. It is **PURPOSEFUL**; 3B. It is **POWERFUL**
4A. THE LAW OF SIN - 1B. It **DWELLS** in the believer; 2B. It **DOMINATES** the believer
- 5A. THREE THINGS WERE SEEN CONCERNING OUR DELIVERANCE - 7:24-25
- **1B. REALIZE our sinful condition; 2B. RESPOND to our only Savior from sin; 3B. RECOGNIZE the facts that reveal our need for the Holy Spirit’s power and control**
OUR SECURITY IS...
- 1A. **GIVEN BY THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** - ROMANS 8:1-17 – We can’t make it without the power and control of the Holy Spirit!
2A. **GROUNDED IN OUR HOPE** - ROMANS 8:18-25 (Our hope is beyond the grave!)
3A. **GUARANTEED BY FOUR FACTS** - ROMANS 8:26-39
- **SECURITY - Romans 8 – Begins with “no condemnation” and ends with “no separation”!**
- 1A. **GIVEN BY THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** - ROMANS 8:1-17
- 1B. **As to the RIGHTEOUSNESS of the law - 8:1-4 (This message)**
2B. As to the **REALITY** of the flesh - 8:5-13
3B. As to our **RELATIONSHIP** to God - 8:14-17
- 1B. As to the **RIGHTEOUSNESS** of the law - 8:1-4 (Sabbath, diet, sacrificial system) Do you ever hear anyone say, God has really touched my life and **I want to understand His law as well as I can in order to live in accordance with the character of that law, which is righteousness! Is our freedom in Christ to do whatever we want to do or to do what He wants us to do? (In and through the power of the Holy Spirit!)**

Note: The key word of ch. 6 was “*sin*” - the key word of ch. 7 was “*law*” - now, the **key word of ch. 8 is “*Spirit*”** - 22 times in its various forms, 19 times as “*the Spirit of God*” “*There is therefore now...*”

Greek: *ara nun* - the word “*therefore*” probably takes in the whole first seven chapters - because we have been justified by faith....

Rom 8:1 **There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to (after-the best way I know how) the flesh, but according to the Spirit.**

Rom 8:2 For **the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free** from the law of sin and death.

1C. **The wonderful Results of our position in Christ** Jesus - 1-2 - “in Christ Jesus” - cf. **Rom. 6:3-5; Gal. 2:20** The phrase “in Christ” is found 77 times in the NT, and in 40 of those places it says “in Christ Jesus” - cf. **1 Cor. 15:22**; “in Christ shall all be made alive” **Eph. 1:3; Col. 1:27**

1D. **No condemnation (judgment)!** – 1 - cf. **John 3:16-18** The Greek adverb is what we call an “**emphatic negative**” and is a word of time – never ever!. **Is this not the most incredible statement in the Bible?** Verse #1 tells us **we are free from the guilt of sin.** Verse #2 tells us **we are free from the power of sin.** cf. **Heb. 7:25; Rev. 12:10; John 3:14-19; John 8:10-11**

2D. **No carnality dominating our lifestyle (our habit of life – as a general rule!)** - “who do not walk according to (the norm according to which a judgment is rendered, or rewards or punishments are given; to his capability) the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”

Note: In MacArthur’s commentary on Romans, Vol. I, page 403 - “The phrase “who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit” appears at the end of verse 1 in the King James, but it is not found in the earliest manuscripts of Romans, or in most modern translations. It is probable that a copyist inadvertently picked up the phrase from verse 4. Because the identical wording appears there, the meaning of the passage is not affected.” However, the truth is that the only manuscripts that leave the phrase out are Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus. The majority of manuscripts contain the reading, and it is quoted by early church leaders and writings. **The phrase is repeated because it is teaching a very important truth about a true, genuine believer, in contrast with an unbeliever who merely professes to belong to the Lord!** That is clear from the discussion that follows.

3D. **No control by sin and death** – 2 - cf. **John 8:32-36**

Rom 8:3 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,**

2C. **The marvelous Reason why these results were made possible** – 3 –

1D. The **inability of the law** “for what the law could not do (no power!), in that it was weak (Greek: *asthenos*) through the flesh” **There is nothing wrong with the law, but I’m carnal.** Morris, quoting Manson: **“Moses’ law has right but not might; Sin’s law has might but not right; the law of the Spirit has both right and might.”** The law could not defeat sin; it could only detect sin. Only Jesus can defeat sin, and He did just that through His work on the cross.

2D. The **initiative of God** - “**God did by sending His own Son**” - On ten occasions it is recorded that Jesus referred to His Father as the One Who “has sent Me” - Cf. **John 3:17; 8:42; Gal. 4:4; 1 John 4:9-10, 14; John 20:21-“As the Father has sent Me, I also send you!”** – **Back to the gospel again! Not man seeking God, but God seeking man! He sent His Son to solve the problem!**

3D. The **incarnation of Jesus Christ** - “in the likeness of sinful flesh” - He did NOT have “sinful flesh” - it was only a “likeness” - cf. **2 Cor. 5:19-21; Heb. 2:14-15; Heb. 4:15**

4D. The **impact of His coming** - “on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh” NIV says “to be a sin offering” - **Heb. 10:10-14** **He came to die for our sins!!**

Rom 8:4 **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.**

3C. **The amazing Reality in the life of every true believer** – 4 **How amazing!!**

1D. The **ability to do what God wants you to do is made possible only by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit** - “**might be fulfilled in us**”. Paul **does not say that we fulfill** the righteous requirement of the law. He carefully says that **the righteous requirement of the law is fulfilled in us**. It isn’t fulfilled by us, but in us. Simply put, Jesus is our substitute. Jesus was treated as a sinner so we can be treated as righteous.

2D. The **assurance that we are “in Christ Jesus” is based on a lifestyle that follows the Holy Spirit, not the flesh!** Are you trusting the Holy Spirit?? **John 3:16-18; Rom. 8:1-4**