

New Life in the Spirit (Romans 8:1-11)

I. Freedom Through The Spirit (1-4)

A. The Spirit Has Freed the Believer From Law (1-2)

1. The Law no longer condemns the believer (1)

- a. Now there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ
- b. Therefore – links to previous discussion of law in Ch. 7
- c. The Law no longer condemns those in the Spirit
Paul will explain what this means later

2. The Law of the Spirit has Freed the Believer (2)

- a. The Law of spiritual life has freed us
 - it has freed us “in Christ Jesus”
- b. This “new” law has freed us from sin and death
 - The law of sin = the breaking of commands
 - The law of death = the punishment for sin

B. God Accomplished What the Law Could not Do (3)

1. The Law could not free us from sin (3a)

- a. The law was weak because it depended on fleshly (sinful) man to keep it in order to bring life.

2. God Himself Condemned Sin Through His Son (3b)

- a. God sent his son in the likeness of sinful flesh
- b. God sent his son as an offering for sin
- c. God condemned sin in the body of his son
- d. God did this to fulfill the law in believers
- e. Believers are those who walk in the Spirit

C. God Fulfills the Law through the Spirit in Believers (4)

1. Those walking in the Spirit fulfill the law in their lives

- a. This doesn't mean sinlessness but a heart desire and love for the law
- b. The life of the believer is one that loves following God's law

II. Walking in the Spirit (5-9)

A. Being Spiritually Minded (5-8)

1. The Spirit Filled Set Their Mind on Spiritual Things (5)

- a. Those living after flesh mind fleshly things (the lost)
- b. Those living after Spirit mind spiritual things (the saved)
 - i. Paul can say this because God changes the nature and the mindset of the believer
 - ii. This is not a claim of sinlessness but of direction of life

2. The Mindset demonstrates the person's standing

- a. The Carnal Mind (mind set on the flesh) is death
 - i. the lost (those who have not been changed) are dead in their trespasses and sins (i.e. Eph. 2:1)
 - ii. Notice it doesn't say that this mindset leads to death – it says that it is death
- b. The Spiritual Mind (the saved) is life and peace

- i. The Saved (those whose hearts and minds are changed) already have eternal life and peace with God
 - 3. The Fleshly Mind Cannot Obey God (v. 7)
 - a. The mind set on the flesh is hostile to God
 - i. Enmity = hatred
 - ii. The unbeliever may think he doesn't hate God – but in truth he hates the God of Scripture. He may form a god in his own mind that he can love but it is not the true God.
 - b. The mind set on the flesh cannot obey God
 - i. The unbeliever refuses to follow God's law
 - ii. The unbeliever's mind is not able to follow God's law
 - because it is tainted with sin – the mind set on the flesh is not truly obedient to God's law when it is attempting to obey God's law
 - even when we do good – evil is present with us
 - even when we obey the letter of the law, our sin taints our obedience so that we cannot obey no matter how hard we try (remember this is those without Christ)
 - c. Those in the flesh cannot please God no matter what they do (v. 8)
 - B. Possessing the Spirit of Christ (v. 9)
 - 1. Believers are Not in the Flesh (9a)
 - a. All believers have the Holy Spirit indwelling them
 - b. Those with the Holy Spirit are not in the flesh
 - i. Understand this: No saved person is “in the flesh” according to Paul
 - ii. Because the Spirit indwells us and changes us we no longer desire the things of the flesh
 - 2. The Lost are those without the Spirit
 - a. Anyone who does not have the Spirit is not saved
 - b. Those without the Spirit do not belong to Christ
- III. Hoping in the Spirit (v. 10-11)
 - A. Believers have received life through the Spirit (10)
 - 1. Though our flesh is dead because of sin – we are alive
 - a. We are alive to God – in relationship with Him
 - b. We are alive from the dead – now free from death
 - c. We are alive from sin – now free from condemnation
 - B. Believers will be eternally resurrected (11)
 - 1. The Spirit that raised Jesus lives in believers
 - a. That Spirit will raise our dying bodies
 - i. the word “mortal” is the same word as “dead” in verse 10
 - 2. The Spirit that raised Jesus will raise you too

