

## Romans 8

By Trish Gerstel

**The Lord lives in you! Take just a minute to think about that amazing fact: When you have faith in Christ, the “Sovereign Lord [who] made the heavens and the earth by [His] great power and outstretched arm” (Jeremiah 32:17) lives in your heart. The beauty of that truth and all that it means for Christians is what Paul explores in the beginning of Romans chapter eight (a chapter filled with encouragement) as he talks about the many wonderful aspects of the Holy Spirit:**

Verses one and two: Through God’s “Spirit of grace and supplication” (Zechariah 12:10) He made a way for our redemption from sin. **Meditate on the fact that God is a righteous being, perfect in every way, and yet He has made a way for us to be welcomed back into the fold.**

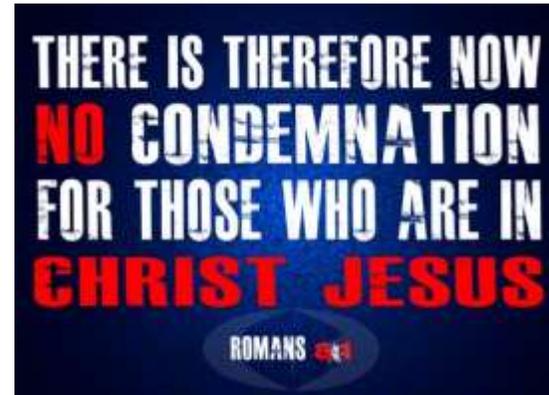


**Verses three thru 13:** We have access to “the Spirit of counsel and of power” (Isaiah 11:2) that will work in us to conquer sins “that nature desires.” **How often do we rely on our own imperfect minds when we can “live in accordance with the Spirit [and] have [our] minds set on what the Spirit de-**

sires” (8:5)? Each and every day we should remind ourselves that we “are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit” (8:9)!

Verses 14 thru 17: Thanks to the “Spirit of sonship” we are made children of God, “co-heirs with Christ.” We are children of God – heirs to His Kingdom. **There are no words to express the joy in this reality.**

**Verses 18 thru 25: We will persevere through the hardships of this fallen world with offerings from “the Spirit of wisdom and understanding . . . knowledge and of the fear of the Lord” (Isaiah 11:2; John 14:17). We often times try to “fight the good fight” and face unwelcome situations and circumstances on our own, when instead we should be looking to the Spirit to give us the understanding and knowledge that is needed to endure.**



**Verses 26 thru 27: The Spirit will speak for us, using the perfect words to speak to God when we do now know what to say! Sometimes we try too hard to have the right words – but God knows our hearts.**

**The final verses of Romans chapter eight wrap-up Paul’s point, with its emphasis found in verses 31 and 38-39: “If God is for us, who can be against us?”; “For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons . . . nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”**

**As Christians who have accepted the free gift of salvation that was offered through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, we are living in His will (something that’s impossible to do when un-atoned sin separates us from God). Although satan would love for us to forget what that truly means, Paul is reminding us in this passage of Romans: God has a plan, and He has the power to make it happen no matter what – we just need to have faith and follow the leading of His Spirit!**



\*Scripture quotations taken from the New International Version.

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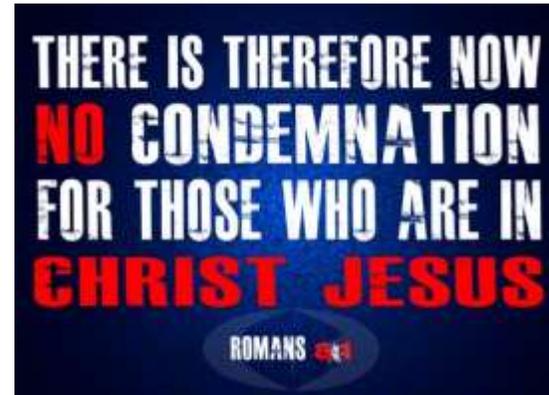


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