

Right in God's Sight

Studies from the Book of Romans

Lesson 11

Romans 8:1–17

Romans 8:1–11

The Spirit–filled Life

Romans chapter 8 has been referred to as the greatest chapter in all of Scripture, the highlight of the entire book. Having taken the last two chapters to carefully lay the foundation for the believer's sanctification, Paul now bursts forth in praise and worship. What is the cause of his adoration? The war over man's predisposition to sin is conquered by the Holy Spirit—the new way of life for every Christian. It is here that Paul delves extensively into the freedoms and blessings that are ours through Jesus Christ.

Read all of Romans 8. Our lesson this week will focus on verses 1–17.

Do you ever wonder why God allows suffering? Have you ever doubted whether you are really saved and set apart for the Lord? Chapter 8 puts to rest questions that plague the mind and trouble the soul. Nowhere else do we see so explicitly what God has in mind for His children—that behind everything is a loving heavenly Father who is diligently working all things together for good in fulfillment of His purpose.

We found out in chapters 6 and 7 that as believers we have been set free from sin and made alive unto God. We also discovered that we have been freed from the law, and that we now serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written letter.

1. Based upon these powerful eternal truths, what pivotal statement does Paul declare in verse 1?
 - a. Think about it: what are some of the things that Satan will use to cause you to question the reality of your salvation?
 - b. When you do not walk any longer according to the desires of the flesh, what is true of you?
2. How again, in your own words, is it possible for you to be free from the power of sin? vv. 2–3 (See Galatians 2:20 for help.)

Look Closer:

In order for God to save you, it was necessary for Christ to become like you but without your sin nature. Look up the verses that follow and briefly state the main point.

- a. 2 Corinthians 5:21

- b. Hebrews 2:17–18

- c. Hebrews 4:14–15

- d. 1 John 3:5

Paul states in verse 3 that God *condemned sin in the flesh*, declaring an end to its control over you. The glorious reality is that the result of Christ’s sacrifice means that you are enabled to live the kind of life the righteous law demands, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

For Group Discussion:

Paul goes on to point out the differences between two types of people: those who choose to walk in the flesh and those who walk in the Spirit. Take a look at the striking contrast between the two, making your notations in the spaces below.

	Walking in the flesh	Walking in the Spirit
vv. 5–7: <i>What they set their minds on doing; their point of view toward God and His principles</i>		
v. 8–11: <i>Their ability to please God and keep His principles</i>		
v.13: <i>Their end result</i>		

- ❖ Summarize the main point of this exercise in your own words.

Memory Verse: "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."
Romans 8:1

Word Wealth:

Using the resources you have on hand (i.e., additional Bible translations, dictionary, Bible dictionary, concordance, etc.), write a definition for the words below.

condemnation (8:1) _____

walk (8:1) _____

debtor (8:12) _____

Romans 8:12–17 **Forever His Child**

Read Romans 8:12–17 for review.

The book of Romans depicts a life that is: redeemed and justified (3:24), alive to God (6:11), eternal (6:23), free from the law of sin and death (8:2), belonging to one spiritual body (12:5), and sharing in the work of Christ (16:3, 9). Absolutely none of these blessings would be true if we were under the condemnation of a holy God. Being freed from condemnation means being made free to serve something else: freed to live! This puts the believer in the position of being sanctified, which is the life-long process of practicing holiness.

1. What does Paul declare about those who walk in the Spirit? vv. 12–13

2. Those that do not belong to God live in fear of Him and of the unknown. Name some of the specific things nonbelievers have to fear that you don't.

3. When you were freed from the bondage of sin, what did you receive? What astounding statement are you able to make? v. 15
Just imagine: you have not receive a spirit of fear, but of adoption into the family of God! You have been made an heir of God and co-heir with Christ, entitling you to the full rights of *sonship* and the blessings that accompany it.
4. Look up the following verses that portray *some* of what you have inherited:
 - a. Matthew 7:9–11
 - b. 1 Corinthians 2:12
 - c. 2 Timothy 1:7
 - d. 2 Peter 1:3

The Holy Spirit gives you the liberty in your spirit to call out to God saying, “*Abba, Father!*” It is an affectionately intimate term meaning “*Daddy.*” It is the cry of one who knows the Father on a personal basis.

Selah . . .

In John 17:23, Jesus prayed these words to the Father regarding you: “*I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.*”

- What do you learn from this verse about your position in Christ?
- What do you understand about His love for you?
- What does this insight do for your perspective? Will you tell the Lord about it?

The Word of God well understood and religiously obeyed is the shortest route to spiritual perfection. And we must not select a few favorite passages to the exclusion of others. Nothing less than a whole Bible can make a whole Christian.” A.W. Tozer

My Roman's Road

Listen . . . Learn . . . Live . . . God's Truth!

Take a look back at this week's lesson. Briefly recap what you learned this week and how you intend to live it out.

1. What lesson in your study became real to you this week?

2. How do you intend to apply this lesson to your daily life?

Memory Verse:

Write down what you learned about God from this week's memory verse.

Write out the verse from memory.

Prayer Request:

Write out your most earnest prayer request and lift it to the Lord.
