

# Romans 8: The Best News in the World

"Life in the Spirit" – September 19, 2021



## Introduction

What does it mean to be free as a Christian? How can we have assurance that we belong to Him and that our past, our present, and our future is in His hands? Paul, in Romans 8, helps us to understand this life in the Spirit.

## Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

## Sermon Outline

*How does the Holy Spirit free us to live a life pleasing to God?*

- I. He condemns sin in the flesh ([Rom. 8:1-4](#))
- II. He provides the power to live a righteous life ([Rom. 8:5-17](#))

## Read & Discuss

- 1) Read [Rom. 8:1-4](#)

Take a moment to read [Romans 6:1-14](#). How does the idea of freedom from sin or being dead to sin help us understand the way the 'law of the Spirit of life' or the 'law of sin and death' act as masters that rule us? Though we deserve condemnation for our sin, Christ took on flesh, lived a perfect life, then took the condemnation for us so we could go free. In that sense, both the 'righteous requirements of the law' (which we failed to keep) and the condemnation we deserve have been taken care of for us by Jesus. Talk about grace!

Paul is telling the Christian what is true of them. If you are 'in Christ' – if you have trusted in Him and been united to Christ by faith – this freedom is yours. If that is the case, how should that truth affect the way you live today? Take time to discuss this...

Additional Reading: Ezekiel 36:25-27

- 2) Read [Rom. 8:5-17](#)

Notice the two mindsets in Romans 8 – a mind set on the flesh and a mind set on the Spirit (see 8:5-8). What are these two mindsets and how are they different?

Though the physical body of a Christian is still subject to death because of sin, what is the hope of a Christian according to Romans 8:9-11? How should that reality shape our outlook and focus in day-to-day living?

Why does Paul say we must (not optional) put to death the 'deeds of the body'? How is the Christian supposed to or able to do this? (keep the context of 8:12-17 in mind as you answer that question...)

Additional Reading: Colossians 3:1-10

### **Prayer of Response**

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

<b>*Next week's sermon text:</b> John 13:1-38 "Love as I Have Loved"
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