

Romans Chapter Eight Made Simple

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Verse 1: At this very moment, we believers in Christ are enjoying the privilege of zero guilt, zero regrets, zero looking backwards, zero feelings of inadequacy or inferiority, and absolutely no sense of impending doom or fear of punishment. In Christ, our past no longer haunts us and our future no longer threatens us. All accusations, incriminations, and allegations leveled against us by people, the devil, and even our own selves, are instantly cancelled because of this vital relationship we have with Christ. We are free to live in the NOW because all charges against us have been dropped. We are Condemnation-Free! Christ has simply vaporized, yes, obliterated... all our old feelings of being cursed.

Verse 2: This is because the the Holy Spirit is continuously imparting the Life of Christ to our inner man, freeing us fully and finally from that old vicious cycle of sinning and then experiencing guilt-separation from God.

Verse 3: The Old Testament rules, regulations, and commandments just couldn't accomplish a change in our nature because of the weaknesses and flaws of our personalities and the evil rooted deeply in our hearts through sin. So God Himself performed this change of nature in us by sending Christ as a man. He became a sin offering in our place, doing the double-negative on sin, positively cancelling it out.

Verse 4: This resulted in the correctness of Genesis to Malachi being deposited deep in our inner man, consummated in the person of Jesus. The result: A liberated lifestyle of pleasing the Holy Spirit instead of always succumbing to sinful temptation.

Verse 5: Some Christians give in to worldly attitudes and actions, entertaining worldly values. But other believers choose to follow and fellowship with the Holy Spirit.

Verse 6: When a believer is negligent concerning his thought life and his attitudes, he will experience coldness in his heart and a feeling of distance from God. But when a believer starves his flesh, feeding his mind with scriptural thoughts inspired by the Holy Spirit, he enjoys a deep sense of inner tranquility and a tangible flow of divine life throughout his entire being.

Verse 7: This is because a worldly mindset is rebellion against God. These carnal thought patterns stubbornly refuse to embrace the things of God.

Verse 8: So a believer who fails to appropriate God's scriptural thoughts and who rejects a lifestyle of believing cannot expect to make the heart of God happy or enjoy intimacy with Him.

Verse 9: But you - Believer - you are no longer a slave to your body and mind. You now enjoy life "in the Spirit." And why? The Holy Spirit actually has made His home inside of you. Every true believer has the Holy Spirit indwelling them. And obviously, people who don't have the Spirit don't belong to God.

Verse 10: Now since Christ lives in you by His Spirit, your spirit-man is connected to God and vibrant with the divine nature. This happened the moment He placed you in right standing with Himself because of your faith in Christ. However, your body is still subject to rushes of carnal feelings and attitudes because you live in a sinful environment and in an ordinary human body.

Verse 11: But there is a solution. Since the Holy Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead actually indwells you, it is most natural for the Father to release this resurrection life into your mortal body, multiplying it to you

through the Holy Spirit. He will direct the flow of this Divine Life into the parts of your personality, psyche, and physical body that need it the most. Your mortal body is meant to experience His resurrection power in the here and now. The presence of the Holy Spirit will rush you and flood you with glory from the inside out.

Verse 12: This being the case, brothers and sisters, we owe no allegiance to the fleshly nature bound up in our yet unglorified bodies. Rather we have learned to pay no attention to its impulses and to reject its cravings.

Verse 13: But if you pay attention to all these wandering longings, entertaining your body and mind's every whim, you are going to find yourself sinning a lot, feeling uncomfortable and separated from God, and living a defeated life. Why not talk to the Holy Spirit instead, enjoying His companionship and asking for His help. At the same time you are fellowshiping with your Friend the Holy Spirit, you will be dealing the death-blow to those old attitudes, silly habits, distracting cravings, and ridiculous thought patterns left over from your old life. He will help you nail your old habits to the wall, giving you a decisive victory.

Verse 14: You see, it is easy to act like who you really are - a son of God - when you are appropriating the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Let Him lead; you follow.

Verse 15: Realize that you are no longer driven by a demon of addiction, but you are gloriously inhabited by the Spirit of God who has made you God's son. Now you are free to call on your Father, relating to Him as a "Dad."

Verse 16: You see, the Spirit Himself has given you a "knowing" deep within you, constantly assuring you that you are indeed - by nature and in very essence - a child of God!

New Paragraph (In the Greek):

Verse 17: Now since you are His very own child, you have a birthright, being the heir of God. Now you are a joint owner of everything belonging to Christ. His rights are your rights. His privileges are your privileges. His thoughts can become your thoughts; his values your own. As I just finished discussing above, realize that there is some suffering associated with the conflict between your new spirit and your old flesh. Christ Himself experienced this warfare. But focus in on the fact that we will soon enjoy the same resurrection glory He is now experiencing in heaven.

Verse 18: As a matter of fact, when I compare this present warfare we experience with the radiating splendour that will soon be ours, these brief passing battles are not even worth mentioning. These little skirmishes we have with our flesh are eclipsed by the prospect of eternal glory and the certain fact that we will receive glorified bodies never again subject to these earthly problems. It will all be worth it...won't it!

Verse 19: Even the earth and the universe eagerly anticipate the final consummation of our sonship, that day when we will reign on earth in our glorified immortalized bodies.

Verse 20: That's because, it was not only men that were adversely effected by Adam's willful rebellion; but even the creation itself was seriously damaged. But there is hope; no doubt about it.

Verse 21: Why? Because even the earth, the atmosphere, and all forms of life and material will be sprung from their slavery to decay and disorder. The creation also will experience redemption and freedom like we the sons of God have.

Verse 22: For it is quite evident that all of creation is rocking and reeling with a measure of chaos. The earth, the atmosphere, and everything in it often get disrupted and things go amiss in the universe in which we live. These are manifestations of fallen creation as it anticipates the final day of it too being redeemed as we have been.

Verse 23: But not only is the creation yearning, longing, and quaking towards that final hour, but we believers even experience this same kind of pain inwardly. Often we can only sigh and groan as we so intensely desire the resurrection of our bodies which consummate our sonship.

Verse 24: It is this very hope, this anticipation of future glorification, this reality of eternally living with God, that convinced us to be saved. One doesn't joyfully look forward to something he already has. No, the very nature of hope is a focus on the future.

Verse 25: But if we focus on the certainty of our eternal future it will fill us with patience, making us long distance runners with the ability to pace ourselves all the way to that finish line.

New Paragraph (In The Greek):

Verse 26: In the same way I have explained how creation is in birth pains and making noises, the Holy Spirit also helps our personal weaknesses and character flaws. Our praying from our own mind often comes to an end because we don't know exactly what to pray for and we can't think of any more words to express ourselves, or anything else we can do to get the job done. That is when we can yield to the Holy Spirit and let him pray through us in groaning noises - intense prayer in tongues - too deep for normal human words - a supernatural communication with God.

Verse 27: And the Father who searches our hearts knows exactly what the Holy Spirit is expressing through us in tongues. That's because when the Spirit helps us pray in tongues (for ourselves or for others), He is praying untainted perfect prayers that are always in line with God's perfect will and plans.

Verse 28: And we know that when this happens that in all situations God is working out things for the good of those who love Him. As we pray like this, He is working out His purposes and callings in our lives. When basked in Holy Ghost prayer, we can be sure God is handling every situation that arises.

Verse 29: Yes, we are God's idea. He knew us before He created us and preplanned that we that we should be changed to become just like His Son, who is the firstborn, the big brother, of many brothers.

Verse 30: Now those whom he preplanned (preplanning their existence, their arrival time, and their every step in life), He also invited to connect and enjoy that plan. And those whom He invited to hook up with His plan for their life, having accepted His invitation, He qualified them - giving them His righteousness. (He feels good about us!) And those whom He qualified, He also imparted glory into them, gifting them for fruitful service.

New Paragraph (In The Greek):

Verse 31: How can we respond to such glorious revelations? If God is on our side and has done such things for us, who in the world could possibly defeat us?

Verse 32: If He did not even spare giving up His one and only Son for us, He is obviously committed to taking care of the rest of the details of our lives - all in an extravagant fashion, I might add. Surely if He gave us His Best, He'll take care of the rest.

Verse 33: So who is going to successfully indict us in the heavenly court of justice? It is God, the Judge Himself, who has acquitted us and made us righteous in His own sight.

Verse 34: Where are our accusers? The Christ, Jesus Himself, has died in our place and has plead our case. Besides, He is risen from the dead, and is at God's right hand, making up the difference for us, talking to God on our behalf, and keeping us connected with the Father until the end..

Verse 35: In light of all this, who, tell me who, is going to keep us separated from Christ's love for us? Can troubles stop God from loving us? Does hardship mean He doesn't love us anymore? When people criticize us, malign us, or do us injustice - can they stop God from loving us? How about hunger or financial problems? They can't break this love bond either. Even under dangerous conditions or in wartime we will experience His love in our hearts.

Verse 36: Just like it is written in the scriptures: "For your sake God, we are confronted with the possibility of death. Yes, many wish that we believers would be wiped out and mass murdered."

Verse 37: But I tell all these circumstances and threats of life: "No! A resounding, No!" What He conquered for us and how He loves us in turn makes us, "More Than Conquerors!"

Verse 38: For I am absolutely sure that such events and beings like... death, ordinary routine living, ruling demons, pawn demons, tough times today, tough times tomorrow, not governments, not the ups or downs of life, not anyone or anything in all creation can by any means cut us off from God's intense love for us. Its too late! This love is already an experienced reality in our hearts through our Lord Jesus Christ.