

## ROMANS 8:1-14

### Romans 8:1-2

*Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

- “Therefore” refers to the fact that we died to the Law and are alive in Christ. Since we are free from the law, we are free from the condemnation of the law.
  - **Now:** nun (noon) “now”; also henceforth, hereafter
  - **NO:** not even so much as one; never
  - **Condemnation:** katakrima (kat-ak'-ree-mah) an adverse sentence (the verdict): condemnation, as in a court of law.
- It is when we allow ourselves to be led by laws instead of grace that we feel condemned because the law pronounces us “guilty as charged”.
- If we feel any condemnation, WE NEED TO ASK OURSELVES,

**“Why? What law have I allowed myself to come under?”**

You will notice that when condemning thoughts come they are not usually in the form of “You are...” as if to accuse, but often begin with “I am...” We believe this is a tactic of the enemy so that you think you are having these thoughts.

### Romans 8:2

*For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free from the law of sin and of death.*

AMPLIFIED: For the law of the Spirit of life [which is] in Christ Jesus [the law of our new being] has freed **me** from the law of sin and of death.

- The law of the Spirit of life WHICH IS IN Christ Jesus IS WHAT HAS SET US FREE and it is referring to the death and resurrection in Jesus. We died with Christ to be free from the law of sin and death so that we could be married to another, Jesus Christ. Through this HIGHER law (or principle) we are NO LONGER bound to the law (or principle) of sin and death.
  - **Set you free:** eleutheroo (el-yoo-ther-o'-o) to liberate, that is, (figuratively) to exempt (from moral, ceremonial or mortal liability): - deliver, make free.
- We are LIBERATED/EXEMPTED/DELIVERED/FREED FROM MORAL LIABILITY to the law of sin and death.
- The law of sin and death: refers to our former life in which we obeyed laws in order to be made acceptable to God. This can be as described in Romans 6 (our lives before Jesus as slaves to sin) or the life of a Christian who has gone back to trying to be justified by keeping the law (the miserable life as described in Romans 7).

Because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has liberated, delivered, freed and exempted us from all moral, ceremonial or mortal liability to the law of sin and death, we are no longer accountable to the law or the consequences for not obeying the law. It has zero authority to condemn us. From now on there is not even so much as one judgment from the law for those who are in Christ Jesus.

#### *Romans 8:3-4*

*For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*

- The Law could only show us how sinful we were. It was perfect but our flesh was weak and sinful, not able to perfectly keep it.
- Since we were incapable of meeting the requirements of the law, God condemned sin in the flesh of His own Son who took on the likeness of sinful flesh in order to fulfill the requirements of the Law **for** us.
  - **GOD CONDEMNED SIN, NOT YOU, but in the body of Jesus.**
  - The tense used to translate “might be fulfilled” reads “may be being filled” speaking of a continual action.
- As believers we do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. This is our new standard. We are freed from the law and free to walk according to the Spirit.

#### **Colossians 2:13**

*When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, <sup>14</sup>having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.*

#### *Romans 8:5-8*

*For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, <sup>7</sup>because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

According to the Flesh (death, law, sin, self-effort) <b>SINNER</b>	According to the Spirit (life, grace, righteousness, peace) <b>SAINT</b>
They set their minds on the things of the flesh.	<p>They set their minds on things of the Spirit.</p> <p>The mind set on the Spirit is life and peace.</p> <p><i>Implied: Those in the Spirit <u>do</u> please God.</i></p>
The mind set on the flesh is death.	
The mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God.	
The mind set on the flesh does not subject itself to the law of God.	
The mind set on the flesh is not even able to subject itself to the law of God.	
<b>Those in the flesh cannot please God.</b>	

**BELIEVERS ARE CREATED TO LIVE IN THE RIGHT COLUMN. THE LEFT COLUMN DESCRIBES AND UNBELIEVER. IF WE TRY TO PLEASE GOD BY LAW, WE BECOME MORE MISERABLE THAN AND NON-BELIEVER. We know we should have life, but because we are submitting to laws we experience what feels more like death.**

To have our minds on the flesh is to have our minds on ourselves. It is trusting in our efforts to save us. If we are thinking we are under law, we are by definition thinking of ourselves, of what WE need to do in order to please God, or what WE need to do in order to be right with God. In essence we are rejecting the righteousness received by faith and trying to make ourselves righteous through obeying religious laws or formulas or rituals.

### **TWO TYPES OF SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS**

1. *Someone who is under religious laws and is pretty good at keeping them will tend to be proud and think himself superior to those who don't keep them.*
2. *Someone who is under religious laws but is not good at keeping them will tend to feel condemned and inferior to those who do keep them.*

**BOTH OF THESE CHRISTIANS ARE SELF-RIGHTEOUS, BECAUSE BOTH ARE TRUSTING IN SELF TO BE RIGHTEOUS.  
BOTH BELIEVE IN "ANOTHER" GOSPEL.**

**Romans 8:9-11**

*However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. <sup>10</sup>If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>But if*

*the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.*

- Verse 9 shows our correct identity. If we believe that we are in the flesh, we will act like it. If we understand and believe that as Christians we ARE in the Spirit and completely equipped to walk in His love and grace, then we will walk in the Spirit.

WE ARE NOT IN THE FLESH,  
 WE ARE IN THE SPIRIT.

- Verse 11 is not talking about our bodies being changed at the resurrection. It is talking about our MORTAL bodies, the bodies we have right now. Since the very Spirit that raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, He will also raise your body. This is referring to health and healing.
- Paul is giving yet another Before and Now picture. He is showing us what living in the flesh is like...that is, what the life of a **NON-believer** is like VS. the life of living in the Spirit...WHICH IS THE LIFE WE NOW POSSESS. When Christians get back under living as if they are still in the flesh, they will be GREATLY CONFUSED. You were not born again to live like a dead person!!!! You were born again to TRULY LIVE.

Those Who Are In the Flesh=Sinners (death, law, sin, self-effort)	<b>MISERABLE CHRISTIAN</b> ←☹→	Those Who Are In the Spirit=Saints (life, grace, righteousness, peace)
They do not have the Spirit of Christ.	<i>Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?</i>	The Spirit of God dwells in us.
They do not belong to Jesus.		The spirit is alive because of righteousness (the gift)
They cannot please God (vs. 8)	<b>WHY WOULD ANY CHRISTIAN WANT TO "LIVE" HERE?</b>	<b>God will give life to our mortal bodies through His Spirit...divine healing &amp; health</b>
<b>Most believers don't want to live completely under the law.</b>		<b>WE ARE FREE TO LIVE HERE!!!</b>

**Romans 8:12-13**

*So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- <sup>13</sup>for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.*

- This refers back to Romans 6 in which we are told that we are freed from sin. We are under no obligation to obey the flesh or to live according to the flesh. That only leads to spiritual death. We have the power by the Spirit to put to death the deeds of the body.

**Romans 6:12-14**

*Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, <sup>13</sup>and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. <sup>14</sup> For sin shall not be master over you, for (because) you are not under law but under grace.*

**Galatians 5:13-18**

*For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. <sup>14</sup> For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." <sup>15</sup> But if you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. <sup>16</sup> But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.*

**<sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.**

In the Flesh	In the Spirit
Under Law	Under Grace

*“Assuming that a person lives habitually under the dominion of the evil nature, Paul says, that person is about to be dying. The verb is present in tense, and therefore durative in meaning, indicating habitual action. The individual who lives habitually under the dominion of the evil nature is an unsaved person. That one is on the way to final death in the Lake of Fire. But the person who by the Holy Spirit habitually puts to death the deeds of the body, will live. That person is a saved person.” Wuest's Word Studies*

*The miserable person described in Romans 7 is the born again person who gets back under the law, or who tries to please God in the flesh, or who allows himself to be dominated by the lusts of the flesh, and as a consequence begins to suffer unnecessarily as if he were not born again at all.*

**Romans 8:14**

*For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*

- **The sons of God are those who are being led by the Spirit.**
- It isn't mystical or magical. We simply are in the Spirit because we are His children. His children ARE IN THE SPIRIT.
- We **ARE** (right now and forever) His Sons. We don't stop being His sons when we fall short.
- Those who are being led by His love and grace overcome the flesh.