

OUR NEW LIFE – PART 1

ROMANS 8:1-4

WE NOW LIVE NEW LIVES IN THE FREEDOM OF GRACE THAT ARE PLEASING TO GOD.

ROMANS 8 is the Christian's "Declaration of Freedom." Here Paul declares four spiritual freedoms we enjoy because of our ***NEW LIFE*** through Jesus Christ.

- The bad news about sin leads us to the Great News of salvation by grace through faith!
- We were dead and hopeless without Jesus and now we have ***NEW LIFE*** through Him!

THREE REASONS TO REMEMBER

- ***FIRST***, He is justified because all men, through their lineage from Adam, share in the guilt of original sin and in the moral and spiritual depravity it produces.
- ***SECOND***, God is justified in condemning sinners because every person is born with an evil nature.
- ***THIRD***, God is justified in condemning sinners because of the evil deeds their depraved natures inevitably produce.

SO GOD IS PERFECTLY JUST IN HIS ASSESSMENT OF OUR GUILT THROUGH OUR SIN.

IN SPITE OF OUR GUILT, THE THRILLING PROMISE

ROMANS 8:1—*The supremely hope-filled verse!*

I. THE REALITY OF FREEDOM—NO CONDEMNATION

- Remember, Paul has just finished lamenting the continued problem of sin in a believer's life, including his own . . . *"O wretched man that I am."*
- Therefore God takes care of our problem!
- Remember, condemnation is from Satan; conviction is the work of the Holy Spirit . . . know the difference!

II. FREEDOM FROM JUDGMENT— NO CONDEMNATION

THE VERSE DOES NOT SAY “no mistakes,” or “no failures,” or even “no sins.”

- As Christians, we do fail and we do make mistakes, and we do sin; the Bible is full of people of faith who were **FAILURES AT PERFECTION**.
 1. Abraham lied about his wife.
 2. David committed adultery and murder.
 3. Peter tried to kill a man with his sword.

PAUL MADE THREE STATEMENTS ABOUT THE BELIEVER AND THE LAW

TOGETHER THEY ADD UP TO NO CONDEMNATION.

- 1. The Law cannot claim you. v. 2**
- 2. The Law cannot condemn you. v. 3**
- 3. The Law cannot control you. v. 4**

The indwelling Holy Spirit enables you to walk in obedience to God's will. The righteousness that God demands in His law is fulfilled in you through the Spirit's power.

III. THE RESULT OF FREEDOM— SANCTIFICATION

Our freedom from sin results in past, present, as well as future sanctification . . . ***WE ARE FOREVER FREE!***

WE ARE NOW INDWELT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Because we have been cleansed of sin and been given God's own divine nature within us, we now long for and are able to live a life of holiness.
- Being indwelt by the Spirit is not a mark of special maturity or hyper-spirituality, but the mark of every true Christian, without exception.

WALKING THE WALK

Nothing is dearer to God's heart than the moral and spiritual excellence of those He has created in His own image—and nothing should be dearer to us!

- The purpose of the Gospel is not to make men happy in this life, but to make them holy forever.
- As with salvation itself, walking by the Spirit comes first of all by ***GOD'S SOVEREIGN WORK*** in the believer's heart, but it also involves the exercise of the ***BELIEVER'S WILL***.

THE RESULT OF FREEDOM—NO CONDEMNATION!