



# The Epistle to the *Romans*

**Empowering of the  
Holy Spirit**

**Chapter 8:7-17**

# The Challenge of Romans 7

Paul cried out for outside help:

“O wretched man that I am!  
Who shall deliver me from  
the body of this death?”

Rom 7:24

Who is going to enable me to live for God?

# The Work of the Trinity

In the Book of Romans

God the Father  
in creation

Rom. 1:1–3:20

God the Son  
in salvation

Rom. 3:21–7:25

God the Holy Spirit  
in sanctification

Rom. 8:1–39

Up to Ch8 the Holy Spirit is only mentioned twice  
In Ch8 He is mentioned 19 times!

# Contrasts

- **Chapter 5:** The *saving* work of Jesus Christ;
- **Chapter 8:** What Christ did to *provide Victory* in each of our lives.
- **Chapter 5:** Justification by faith is forever;
- **Chapter 8:** A godly life is insured through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- **Chapter 5:** Performance based on understanding God's love for us
- **Chapter 8:** Performance based on power of the Holy Spirit

# Contrasts

- Chapter 5: Reveals our relationship to God;
- Chapter 8: Reveals our relationship to the world, conflict, the flesh, and tribulation
- Chapter 5: Holy Spirit is mentioned only once v.5
- Chapter 8: Power available through Holy Spirit is developed in fullness to give us assured victory
- Chapter 5: Capstone on our *salvation* in Christ
- Chapter 8: Capstone on our *victory* in Christ

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

**Romans 8:1**

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus  
hath made me free from the law of sin and  
death.

**Romans 8:2**



For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

**Romans 8:3**



That the righteousness of the law might be  
fulfilled in **us**, who walk not after the flesh,  
but after the Spirit.

**Romans 8:4**

For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

**Romans 8:5**

- This verse tells us that we have a choice!
- We can 'go after' the flesh (and be its slave)
- Or after the Spirit (and be His servant)

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Romans 8:6

- For [as a blood-bought, saved believer in Jesus Christ], if you are carnally minded and give yourself over to the things of the flesh it will result in 'death'...
- But if you are mindful (your mind is full) of the things of the Spirit it will bring forth life and peace! - BJB Paraphrase

# 6 Different “Deaths”

1. **Physical Death:** when the soul leaves the body.
2. **Spiritual Death:** separation of the human spirit from the soul.

But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the  
dead bury their dead.

**Matthew 8:22**

But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the  
dead bury their dead.

**Matthew 8:22**

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in  
trespasses and sins;

**Ephesians 2:1**

But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.

**Matthew 8:22**

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

**Ephesians 2:1**

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

**Colossians 2:13**



# 6 Different “Deaths”

1. **Physical Death:** when the soul leaves the body.
2. **Spiritual Death:** separation of the human spirit from the soul.      **Matt 8:22, Eph 2:1, Col 2:13**
3. **Sexual Death.**

And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

**Romans 4:19**

# 6 Different “Deaths”

1. **Physical Death:** when the soul leaves the body.
2. **Spiritual Death:** separation of the human spirit  
from the soul **Matt 8:22, Eph 2:1, Col 2:13**
3. **Sexual Death** **Rom 4:19**
4. **Positional Death:**

Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

**Romans 6:3-5**

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3. **Sexual Death** **Rom 4:19**
4. **Positional Death** **Rom 6:3-5, Col 3:3-4**
5. **Operational Death**

Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest,  
and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give  
thee light.

See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as  
fools, but as wise,

Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding  
what the will of the Lord is.

And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess;  
but be filled with the Spirit; **Ephesians 5:14-18**

And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

**Revelation 3:1**



And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

**Revelation 3:1**

Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

**Hebrews 6:1**

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

**Hebrews 9:14**

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3. **Sexual Death.**      **Rom 4:19**
4. **Positional Death:**      **Rom 6:3-5, Col 3:3-4**
5. **Operational Death**      **Eph 5:14-18, Rev 3:1, Heb 6:1, Heb 9:14**
6. **Second Death**

Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

**Revelation 20:6, 14**

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**Revelation 20:6, 14**

- “He that is born once will die twice.  
He that is born twice will die but once.”

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  5. **Operational Death**      Eph 5:14-18, Rev 3:1, Heb 6:1, Heb 9:14
  6. **Second Death**      Rev 20:6, 14
- Many uses for the term “death:”
  - Thus, 8:6 refers to Operational/temporal death.

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Romans 8:6

- For [as a blood-bought, saved believer in Jesus Christ], if you are carnally minded and give yourself over to the things of the flesh it will result in 'death'...
- But if you are mindful (your mind is full) of the things of the Spirit it will bring forth life and peace! - BJB Paraphrase



Because the carnal mind is enmity against God:  
for it is not subject to the law of God, neither  
indeed can be.

**Romans 8:7**

- **Romans 7** again.
  - The things I hate I keep doing...
  - The flesh will never be improved.
  - We are powerless to *change our nature*;
    - Therefore, we cannot - in our own efforts - really please God.
- He alone is the source of power for holiness.

So then they that are in the flesh cannot please  
God.

**Romans 8:8**

- “In the flesh” under the dominion of the flesh;
- *To be proud is to be blind*
- *To be discouraged is unbelief*
- *To be disappointed in yourself means you relied on yourself*
- *To hope to better is to fail to see yourself in Christ only*

- **Chuck Missler**

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

**Romans 8:9**

- “But” = However...
- “in” = under *dominion* of...
- “Spirit of God” = Holy Spirit,
  - Whose mission is to reveal Christ; **John 16:13, 14**
- Every believer has the Holy Spirit.
  - But is He in control of your life?
  - Do you have the Spirit of Christ in you?
  - Are you in the power of His presence?
  - Do you take advantage of it?

And if Christ be in you, the body is dead  
because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of  
righteousness.

**Romans 8:10**

Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with  
him, that the body of sin might be destroyed,  
that henceforth we should not serve sin.

**Romans 6:6**

- “Righteousness” = whose? *His!*
- “destroyed” = “rendered powerless.”

But **if** the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

**Romans 8:11**

- “If” - in the Greek this is ‘first class conditional’  
= “Since”

# Conditional Classes

## Greek

1. If and it's so; “since, indeed,”
2. If and it's not so;
3. If: maybe it's so and maybe it's not;
4. If I wished it was so but probably not;

Greek is the most precise language ever devised.  
(Perhaps that is why God chose it for the New Testament?)

But **if** the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

**Romans 8:11**

- “If”: First class conditional = “Since”
- “*indwells*” (dwelleth) = take up residence in
  - Present tense, continuous process
- Paul, ostensibly blameless before the law exclaims,  
“*O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?*”

**Rom 7:24**



Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. **Romans 8:12**

- We owe nothing to the flesh
    - We are not its debtors to do its service
    - Not since victory is *guaranteed* in Christ
- 1 Cor 10:13**

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

**Galatians 2:20**

For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

**Romans 8:13**

- Summary of 6, 7 and 8 (so far)
- If you keep on living after the flesh ye shall [keep on] dying
  - “Die” is in the *present* tense!  
(E.g. operational death; separation from fellowship)
- “Deeds” = *praxis*, a deeply ingrained habit
  - Echoes the commands of **Rom 6:12, 13**
  - Empowered by the Spirit
  - Mortify: Active voice: *requires volition on our part*

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God,  
they are the sons of God.

**Romans 8:14**

- Realisation of Son-ship
- “Son:” *huios*, adult son
  - Prodigal Son: never lost his son-ship **Luke 15**
  - *No child of God can be happy in living for the things of the flesh. The prodigal son may get into the pig pen, but he will never be content to stay there. He is bound to say, “I will arise and go to my father. CM*

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

**Romans 8:15**

- In Roman law, adoption was required, even of a legitimate son, to inherit.
  - Held in the forum, the ceremony was called the Adoption
  - After adoption, they could *never* be disowned
    - *But they could be disinherited!*
  - All born into his family were children
    - Only those adopted were recognised as sons

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit,  
that we are the children of God: **Romans 8:16**

- “Children”: *teknon*, born one  
**Heb equivalent:** *Bene HaElohim*:  
direct creations by God

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; **if so be** that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

**Romans 8:17**

- We cannot begin to imagine what this means!
- This is a *conditional* reward.
  - Many may arrive in heaven *sorely disappointed!*

# Why do Christians have trials?

1. To glorify God Dan 3:16-18, 24-25
2. Discipline for known sin Heb 12:5-11;  
James 4:17; Rom 14:23; 1 John 1:9
3. To prevent us from falling into sin  
1 Pet 4:1-2
4. To keep us from Pride  
Paul kept from pride by his “thorn in the flesh.”  
2 Cor 12:7-10
5. To build faith 1 Pet 1:6-7




# Why do Christians have trials?

- 6. To cause growth Rom 5:3-5
  - 7. To teach obedience and discipline Acts 9:15-16; Phil 4:11-13
  - 8. To equip us to comfort others 2 Cor 1:3-4
  - 9. To prove the reality of Christ in us 2 Cor 4:7-11
  - 10. For testimony to the angels Job 1:8;  
Eph 3:8-11; 1 Pet 1:12
- Thus: James 1:2-4

# Next Session

- Savor the rest of Romans 8
  - What are the three most important words in Romans 8:28?
  - What can separate us from the Love of Christ?
  - God's model:
    - Foreknown;
    - Predestinated;
    - Called;
    - Justified;
    - Glorified

The background of the entire image is a photograph of the HMS Victory, a three-masted sailing ship, docked in Portsmouth harbor. The ship is seen from a low angle, emphasizing its massive scale. Its hull is painted with alternating yellow and black horizontal stripes. The complex rigging of the ship is visible against a clear sky. In the background, the red-brick buildings of the harbor are partially visible.

# Calvary Chapel Portsmouth



*Simply teaching the Bible, simply*