

**20221120 New obligation to the leadership of the Spirit
of God**

Romans 8:1-16

1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,

2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

3 For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh,

4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

5 Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

6 The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.

7 The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.

8 Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

9 You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.

10 But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

11 And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

12 Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it.

13 For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

**FOUR IMPORTANT SPIRITUAL REALITIES THAT WE COME
TO FACE CONCERNING OURSELVES WHEN WE ARE
SERIOUS ABOUT FOLLOWING CHRIST.**

1. The more we know God's Word, the more our sins are revealed, which makes us miserable.

Romans 7:9-10

⁹ At one time I lived without understanding the law. But when I learned the command not to covet, for instance, the power of sin came to life,

¹⁰ and I died. So I discovered that the law's commands, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death instead.

2. The more we know God's Word, the more negative we become about ourselves. It's because we want to do what is good. But we actually do what we hate to do.

Romans 7:14-15, 19

¹⁴ So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin.

¹⁵ I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate.

¹⁹ I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway.

3. The more we know God's Word, the more we realize that we are under the evil power that subjects us to the power of sin.

Romans 7:16-17, 20-21, 23

¹⁶ But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good.

¹⁷ So I am not the one doing wrong; it is **sin** living in me that does it.

²⁰ But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

²¹ I have discovered **this principle of life**—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong.

²³ But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me.

4. The more we try to obey God's Word, the deeper we live in sorrow and despair instead of joy without God's solution.

Romans 7:24

²⁴ Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death?

GOD'S THREE ANSWERS TO OUR DILEMMA

1. There is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ.

Romans 8:1-2

¹ So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

² And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death.

2. The requirement of the law is fully satisfied for us.

Romans 8:4-5

⁴ He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit.

⁵ Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit.

3. In Christ, the Spirit of God lives in us and helps us to live in the power of the life of Christ.

Romans 8:10-11

10 And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God.

11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.

APPLICATION

Depend on the power of the Spirit of God as we boldly come to the throne of God Who is our Abba (daddy) Father – Prayer is the secret of victory!

Romans 8:14-16

¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

¹⁵ So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father."

¹⁶ For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children.

Hebrews 4:16

¹⁶ So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God.

There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.