

Questions

1. Read Galatians 5:22-23. What are the "things of the Spirit" that we ought to be intentionally mentally consumed with? What other "things" in Scripture come to your mind?
2. "Set your minds" is something that we must be doing. In what ways should you pursue being intentionally mentally consumed with the things of the Spirit? In what ways should we do it together?
3. How should verses 5-8 produce worship in your heart for God? (Read also 1 Peter 1:3-5)
4. How do we know the Spirit has made His home in us? What are some evidences? (With your answers, provide accompanying Scriptures.)
5. How should the promise of our future resurrection be an encouragement in our pursuit of the victorious life, here and now (especially when sin and physical ailments will be experience)?
6. Why are we not obligated to the flesh? What can it look like to functionally live like we are obligated to the flesh?
7. How should we actively pursue killing our sin by the Spirit?



THE BIBLE'S SUMMIT

— A Sermon Series on Romans 8 —

The Victorious Life in The Spirit

Romans 8:5-13

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In Romans 8:5-13 Paul shows believers 4 entailments of the victorious life in the Spirit.

Paul's emphasis in chapter 8—and in our passage—is the Christian life is ultimately one of victory in the Spirit.

1) A Mindset — Verses 5-8

In verse 5 "live" in the original Greek speaks to one's existence. Paul is pointing to the nature of a person.

In verse 5 "set their minds on" is a verb, but in verse 6 "to set the mind on" is a noun. This is "the mindset". This is the inner disposition.

The theological principle of verse 5 is, "how you live is directed by who you are."

Verse 7 speaks to spiritual inability because in the heart those in the flesh don't want to. Those in the flesh (unbelievers) could, if they would, but they don't want to. Their choice is the fruit of their nature.

We freely choose what we desire most, but the truth of Scripture is, until God changes our hearts—our nature—we will only choose the things that are *not* of God, because that is what we desire most.

2-3) His Presence & A Promise — Verses 9-11

2 Truths About the Spirit's Presence in Verse 9

- 1) You are in the Spirit if the Spirit has chosen to make His home in you.
- 2) The defining characteristic of a Christian is, the Spirit dwells in them.

Those in the Spirit are promised ultimate victory in the end. One day—because Jesus is risen—you will leave behind the sin, suffering, and death of this present world.

4) An Obligation — Verses 12-13

"Debtors" means obligation. It is one who is obligated to do something.

And as believers we are *not* obligated to the flesh to live as if under its empowering control. Brothers and sisters in Christ our obligation is to the Spirit.

In verse 13b, the battle is framed in overall victory. Yes, we are going to experience ups and down, but ultimately our obligation to the Spirit is to be victoriously killing sin with His power.

Stemming from verse 13, the Puritan John Owen famously said, "be killing sin or it will be killing you."