

ROMANS: PART 39
MAY 19, 1996

No Condemnation
Romans 8:1-4

Context of Romans 8

1. Romans 8 describes the Christian's *Life In The Spirit*:
 - ♦ A new freedom. Exempt from condemnation. Justification. Rom 8:1-4.
 - ♦ A new life. Exempt from old obligations. Sanctification. Rom 8:5-14.
 - ♦ A new family. Exempt from old slavery. Adoption. Rom 8:14-17.
 - ♦ Experiencing present suffering. Anticipating future glory. Glorification. Rom 8:18-25.
 - ♦ Experiencing present weakness. Receiving the Spirit's strength. Intercession. 8:26-27.
 - ♦ Experiencing present difficulty. Encouraged by God's Purpose. Sovereign Grace. 8:28ff
 - ♦ Conclusion: 5 unanswerable questions. Nothing can separate us from God's Love. 8:31ff
2. Romans 8 describes the source of our *sanctification*.
 - ♦ Romans 7: "law" -- 31 times. "Spirit" -- 1 time.
 - ♦ Romans 8: "Spirit" -- 19 times.
3. Romans 8 continues to describe our *eternal security*.
 - ♦ Rom 8 picks up from Rom 5. You're secure because you are justified.
 - ♦ Rom 8 contrasts w/ Rom 7. You're secure despite your continual struggle with sin.

The First Mercy To The Imperfect Christian: No Condemnation. Rom 8:1.

1. *Therefore*: Connects with Rom 1-5 (the justified sinner) & with Rom 6-7 (the struggling saint).
2. *Condemnation*: Legal judgment or legal penalty. (I.E. Justification). Foundation of all mercies
3. *No condemnation*: This is emphatic & intensified (Not ου but ουδε!!)
4. *Now*: Once condemned, now no longer! There is a before & after.

Our Freedom From Condemnation Stated. Rom 8:2.

1. We have been set free from "the Law of sin & death".
 - ♦ The Law only revealed & stirred up our sin. Rom 7:7-9.
 - ♦ The Law only condemned us to death. Rom 7:7-9,13.
2. We have been set free through "the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus".
 - ♦ Life In Christ Jesus? Salvation. See verses 3,4.
 - ♦ The Law of the Spirit? How that salvation comes to us. See verses 3,4.

Our Freedom From Condemnation Explained. Rom 8:3-4.

1. God took initiative to do what the Law could not do: **Redemption Accomplished**.
 - ♦ God sent His Son in human form. Incarnation.
 - ♦ God sent His Son as a sin offering (περι ἁμαρτίας Cf. Heb 10:6,8; 13:11). Atonement.
 - ♦ God condemned sin (the thing which condemned us) in the flesh (of His Son).
 - ♦ Thus God fulfilled the Law's righteous requirements in us (through Christ)
2. God took initiative to do what the Law could not do: **Redemption Applied**.
 - ♦ We no longer walk in the flesh but the Spirit who *drew* us to Christ. Regeneration/Calling
 - ♦ We no longer walk in the flesh but the Spirit who now *indwells* us in Christ. Baptism.
 - ♦ Ezek 36:26ff; Jer 31:33; Jn 3:1ff; II Cor 3:3.

Application

1. But you don't know what I have *done*....There is now *no* condemnation!
2. But I *feel so far* from God....There is now *no* condemnation!
3. But I do *not trust* in Christ alone....There is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus