

ROMANS: PART 40
MAY 26, 1996

According To The Spirit
Romans 8:5-14

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 5:14-17.
 - ◆ 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* and our *eternal security*.

Contrast Between Two Different Minds (I.E. Two Different People). Rom 8:5-8

1. **Definitions:**
 - ◆ The Flesh (σάρξ): The fallen flesh, sin nature. Here: those still under its dominion. Lost
 - ◆ The Spirit (πνεῦμα): The Spirit of God. Here: those regenerated & indwelt. His people.
 - ◆ Mind (φρονεῖν): The word "mind" in verb form.
The absorbing, preoccupying interests, ambitions, thoughts, affections, energies.
That which drives & engrosses us. Those things to which we give ourselves.
Your *mind* expresses your basic nature -- either as a Christian or a non-Christian.
2. **The Two Minds. Vs 5:**
 - ◆ Those who are according to the flesh -- they have a particular mind. Cf. Gal 5:16-26
 - ◆ Those who are according to the Spirit (Spiritual) -- they have a different mind.
 - ◆ Your nature determines your mind. What you *are* determines what you *do*.
3. **The Two Different Spheres of Living & Two Different Destinies. Vs 6:**
 - ◆ The mind of sinful man is death (dead now & leads to death eternally)
 - ◆ The mind of Spiritual man is life & peace (alive to God, peace w/ God now & forever)
4. **The Pattern of Living of those who are "in the flesh." Vs 7-8:**
 - ◆ Sinful man's attitude toward God: Hostile. (Cf. Rom 7:22; Psm 1).
 - ◆ Sinful man's attitude toward God's Law: Not subject.
 - ◆ Sinful man's ability to do God's Law: Unable to obey.
 - ◆ Sinful man's ability to please God: Cannot please God.
5. **The Pattern of Living of those who are "in the Spirit." Vs 9-11:**
 - ◆ Warning: If you don't have the Spirit of Christ & God, you do not belong to Him.
 - ◆ The Spirit's in you. You're no longer *in the flesh*. New relationship w/ God--the wars over
 - ◆ Christ is in you. You are spiritually alive. A new nature -- though your body is dead
 - ◆ God's Spirit (who raised Christ) is in you. A new future --Your body will be raised/ perfect

Application: Our New Life In the Spirit. Rom 8:12-14.

1. Recognize: You have an obligation to live according to the Holy Spirit (and not the flesh).
2. Take Warning: If you are living like a non-Christian -- you will die like a non-Christian.
3. Act: Through the Spirit you must be putting the deeds of the flesh to death. Mk 8:34.
4. Take Heart: You *are* being led by the Spirit (renewing your mind, stirring heart, directing will).
5. Rejoice! This is irrefutable proof that you are one of His children