

Romans 8:13-16

Sons of God

1. Review

- a. 8:1 – No condemnation to them in Christ Jesus who walk after the Spirit. 2 Cor 5:16
 - b. 8:2-4 – Christ did what the law could not: condemn sin, and fulfill righteousness in us
 - c. 8:5-7- Fulfilled in us by the change of what we mind (things of Spirit = spiritual mind)
 - d. 8:8-9 – Condemnation to those in flesh, but you are in the Spirit. You are Christ's!
 - e. 8:10-11 – Christ in you = life by His Spirit. His indwelling Spirit shall quicken your body.
 - f. 8:12-13 – *The last 'therefore' in Rom 1-8* - Therefore, you shall live through the Spirit.
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2. 8:12-13 – Your Debt to Life

- a. You have no obligation to the flesh to live the 'rest of your life'
- b. The 'rest of this life' is for mortifying the body's deeds, not living through its deeds.
- c. W/o bodily deeds what's left for life? Faith, hope, fruit of Spirit Ro 3:28, 5:5, Phm 6
- d. You live now 'through the Spirit' and the 'rest of life' is now *eternal* life in Christ.
- e. *"ye shall live"* – Praise God! No more room for "and he died" – Rom 8:37

3. 8:14 – Led by the Spirit

- a. *'To walk after'* is to follow a course. There are two courses: flesh or Spirit. Eph 2:2
- b. *'To be led'* speaks to the direction of the course laid out/ the road to travel – 2 Tim 4:7
- c. Course of flesh = ignorant, resist God, live by what you see, feel, can do. Eph 4:17, Ti 3:3
- d. Course of Spirit = what we know by faith, live by faith, what God did - Titus 3:5, Ga 5:18
- e. What is the Spirit's course/ leading? Read it: Eph1:13, 2:18,22, 3:5, 16, 4:3, 5:18, 6:17

4. 8:14 – Sons of God

- a. *"For as many"* – speaking to the reason that 'ye shall live' in 8:13
- b. *"... are the sons of God"* – No longer sinners, wretch, but saints, justified, sanctified.
- c. What you do can't change who you are, but who you are can change what you do.
- d. Romans 8 and Ephesians (v3,5,10-11, 14, 18) overlap on this subject of who we are.
- e. 'Son' not merely a child, but full grown, complete, w/rights, prepared (by the Spirit)

5. 8:15 – Spirit of Adoption

- a. *"not received the spirit of bondage"* – under law/covenants/flesh –Rom 7:23, 2Co 3:6
 - i. Israel covenanted to be sons, 'Our Father', Rom 9:4, John 1:12, but now we are
 - ii. Peter defines bondage as what overcomes a man – 2 Pet 2:19, Heb 2:15
 - iii. Bondage under the law/elements of the world – Col 2:8, 18, Gal 2:4, 4:3, 4:9, 5:1
 - iv. God has not given us the spirit of fear – 2 Ti 1:6-7 (what he gives through Spirit)
- b. *"Spirit of adoption"* – Explained in Gal 4:1-7 as becoming a son/heir at this time
- c. *"Abba, Father"* – (Inspired translation!) A term used by sons not servants – Mark 14:36

6. 8:16 – Spirit Bears Witness

- a. *“beareth witness with our spirit”* – Important not to roll your eyes back and try to intuit.
- b. We are made sons by the Spirit’s leading = by faith in Christ Jesus – Gal 3:26
- c. The Spirit reveals the things of God – 1 Cor 2:10, to men – 2 Pet 1:21
- d. We can only know what the Spirit revealed to men today from the scriptures – 2 Ti 3:16
- e. The Bible is the Spirit’s verbal written witness to us received only by faith. Rom 10:17
- f. *“children of God”* – Rom 9:8, 16:26, Gal 3:26, Eph 3:6, 5:2, 5:8

Kinds of walk:	“walk in”	“walk after...”	“walk worthy...”
What it describes:	Power	Purpose	Performance
	Life / strength/ motivation	Course / map / rule / God’s will	Results / deeds
What you ...	Belief	Study, know, learn, purpose	Do
What is exercised:	Heart	Mind	Body
Works	That have been done (we were born this way)	Things that should be done	Things that are being done
Where you look:	Past	Future (ends)	Present evaluation
... the flesh (unsaved)	Blindness in heart Alienated from life of God	Darkened mind Ignorant Vanity in their mind	Evil deeds, sin, flesh, death
... the Spirit (saved)	Light of the gospel – 2 Cor 4:4	Enlightened with the truth in your mind – Eph 1:18	Shine as lights in the world – Phil 2:15
Spirit’s work in you	Seals you into Christ by the gospel	Sanctifies you by the knowledge of the mystery	Produces fruit in you – Gal 5:22