

Ministry of The Holy Spirit
The Joy of Every Follower of Jesus
Romans 8:1-11

Last time...the frustration and discouragement of every follower of Jesus Christ

Rom 7:21-25

- So many failures and mistakes...still, as the flesh rules the mind
- A distress call – Help!!!

On Tuesday, Ps 118

- Give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good because His mercy endures forever
- I called upon the LORD in distress, the LORD answered me
- The LORD is on my side, I will not fear
- The LORD is my strength and song and is become my salvation
- I shall not die, but live

This time...after such intense frustration and discouragement comes even greater joy and encouragement for every follower of Jesus Christ

May we receive what the Holy Spirit is teaching us in Rom 8:1-11, a glorious segment of this doctrinal masterpiece, the Epistle to the Romans

v1 Therefore...in conclusion, since Ch 7:24-25 are true
now...immediately and henceforth forever
no condemnation...judgment of sin
to them which are in Christ Jesus...our Divinely establish position before the Father in
heaven
who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit...are alive unto God, not dead in sin

Those “in Christ”

- follow Jesus and do not follow after the body of this death sold under sin (Ch 7:14, 24)
- delight in the law of God after the inward man (Ch 7:22)
- were born with a no-good sin nature (Ch 7:18) but are now born-again of the Spirit of God

Just as Jesus told Nic

John 3:16-18

“in Christ Jesus” = “walk not after the flesh” = “walk after the Spirit”

All phrases describe the born-again believer, the follower of Jesus Christ
The Holy Spirit did not say “if”, neither explicitly nor implied

The Holy Spirit is NOT saying there is no condemnation when I walk in the Spirit
but condemnation when I walk after the sinful flesh

The Holy Spirit is saying there is no condemnation to us who are
(currently and eternally)

1. in Christ Jesus and
2. walk not after the flesh and
3. but (walk) after the Spirit

This is a descriptive statement of our eternal being, NOT our momentary
performance (sin, the flesh ruling over the mind)

eternal being: transformed by God from wrong-being, made right-being
vs

performance: every time I sin (Ch 7:14-19) I “fall out of” Christ and lose
my salvation until 1 John 1:9 and then I am back
“in Christ”

I am unceasingly bouncing between saved and condemned..
based on my performance/works...which is NOT
what Scripture teaches us

The Lord is our salvation!
“It is finished!”

We are purchased possessions and children of God in whom continues
God’s work of conforming us into the image of His Son,
our Savior

Those “in Christ” are right-being and they do walk after the Spirit,
albeit imperfectly, being plagued by imperfection in these mortal
bodies

v2 For the law

of the Spirit of life...the breath of God that gives life unto the lifeless
in Christ Jesus...John 1:4

John 11:25-26 I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me,
though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever
liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

1 Cor 15:45 The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam
was made a quickening spirit.

has made...past tense, a work of the Spirit of God accomplished
me...personally, in personal right relationship with God

free from the law of sin and death...liberated from the nature of man-kind and made new
in the nature of Jesus-kind

Rom 6:6-7, 11, 14, 22-23

2 Cor 5:21

I am no longer, nor will I ever again be, under the dominion of sin, death, and the Law

1 Cor 15:56 The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law. I am NEVER going to be downgraded back to man-kind by my performance/sin

John 10:27-30

I am forever Jesus-kind and under the dominion of grace

Because...

v3-4 What the Law could not do, was unable to do...justify me, declare me now and forever innocent of wrong-being (sin nature of my flesh) and wrong-doing (sin) (instead, it declares me guilty of both, Ch 3:19)

God, sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh...

Is 7:14 Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel ("God with us")

Is 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

John 1:1, 14

and for sin...

Is 53:10-11 it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see *his* seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

John 1:29

1 Peter 1:19 a Lamb without blemish and without spot (perfect, without sin) condemned sin in the flesh...judged the wrong-being and wrong-doing of sinful flesh

that...for the purpose of

the righteousness of the Law...which is holy, just, and good (Ch 7:12)

might be fulfilled...completed

in us...Jesus-kind, "in Christ", "who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit"

Matt 5:17

Rom 10:4

Heb 10:14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

Evidence: Rom 7:24, the believer's distress call for God's mercy

v5 they that are after the flesh...the dead-in-sin and condemned, unbelievers
do mind the things of the flesh...obey, seek after, lust for the works of the flesh
Gal 5:19-21 Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry,
witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions,
heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like
but they that are after the Spirit...born-again of the Spirit of God, the children of God
the things of the Spirit...obey, seek after, long for the fruit of the Spirit (Christ-likeness)
Gal 5:22-23 love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Which of those two mind-sets to you seek, desire, obey?!

v6 For to be carnally minded...being of a wrong mind, the mind of the flesh,
not believing God's testimony of His Son Jesus Christ
John 15:26 *when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the
Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father,
he shall testify of me:*
1 John 5:9b-13 for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.
He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he
that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth
not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record,
that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He
that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God
hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on
the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal
life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.
is death...the absence of Life, Ch 6:23a
but to be spiritually minded...being of a right mind (the mind of Christ),
in one's right mind (at the feet of Jesus, Mark 5:1-15),
believing God's testimony of His Son Jesus Christ
is life...John 3:16
and peace...Rom 5:1, Matt 5:9

Our "mindedness" comes with a choice: to believe/trust God or not

Spiritually minded:

- believing /trusting God
- choosing life and light
- a right mind...mental health

Carnally minded:

- not believing/trusting God
- choosing death and darkness
- a wrong mind...mental illness

The Mayo Clinic defines mental illness as:

“Mental illness, also called mental health disorders, refers to a wide range of mental health conditions — disorders that affect your mood, thinking and behavior. Examples of mental illness include depression, anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, eating disorders, and addictive behaviors.”

The Creator of heaven and earth and all things therein defines mental health in terms of a right relationship with Him...believing/trusting Him

Gen 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.
(the earth was filled with mental illness, except for 8)

Eph 4:17-19 walk not as other Gentiles (heathen, unbelievers) walk, in the vanity of their mind, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.
(the earth is still filled with mental illness)

2 Tim 3:1-5 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.
(our society is filled with mental illness!
the Church is plagued with mental illness too)

Is 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

To reason with God (to agree with Truth) is a right mind...
mental health

To not reason with God (to disagree with Truth) is a wrong mind...
mental illness

To choose death over Life is mental illness
To choose darkness over Light is mental illness
To think good is evil and evil is good is mental illness
To refuse to be delivered from the power of darkness, and translated into
the kingdom of God's dear Son is mental illness

Why do we see these things pervasively in our nation:

- Violence, rioting, mass shootings
- Lawlessness, anarchy
- Homelessness
- Drugs (sorceries)
- Woke
- Absence of common sense
- Strong oppressing the weak (murdering babies is the ultimate)
- Hopelessness
- Deception and corruption
- Distress of nations with perplexity – no answers for the
problems facing society

A: mental illness

That is NOT to say that chemical imbalances in the brain are not real,
because they are real
That is NOT to say that God's children do not suffer from depression, anxiety
disorders, schizophrenia, eating disorders and addictive behaviors
That is NOT to say that those who suffer from depression, anxiety disorders,
schizophrenia, eating disorders and addictive behaviors are NOT children
of God

That is to say every person, from the Creator's perspective, has either a right mind
(the mind of Christ, faith) or a wrong mind (the carnal mind, unbelief)
From God's perspective (on the spiritual plain), to have a wrong mind
(the unbelieving carnal mind) is mental illness

Because...

v7-8 Because the carnal mind...unbelief, choosing death over life and darkness over light
is enmity against God...is hostile toward the Creator God Who alone is good
for it is not subject to the law of God...does not obey but rather rejects and disobeys,
does not submit to but rather rebels, against the authority of the Maker
neither indeed can be...it cannot obey, it cannot submit – it by nature is unable to,
(the nature needs to be changed by grace thru faith)
so that they that are in the flesh...wrong-being with a wrong-mind, dead in sin
cannot...it is impossible
to please God...ever

The carnal mind is unable...is dis-abled

The carnal mind...wrong minded, mental illness (God's perspective)...is a disability

The carnal mind is the greatest disability facing man-kind

The disability is not believing/trusting the Lord...it leads to destruction/ruin/death

Next word:

v9 But...contrary to the greatest disability facing man-kind
ye...Rom 1:7, believers, followers of Jesus, Jesus-kind, alive in the Spirit
are...our current and eternal status, our being
not in the flesh...we are not wrong-being, we are not wrong-minded
(choosing death and darkness)
but in the Spirit...we are right-being and right-minded
(choosing life and light)
if so be that...seeing that

the Spirit of God dwells in you...

John 14:16-17 I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter,
that he may abide with you for ever; the Spirit of truth; whom the
world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth
him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in
you.

Eph 1:13-14 In whom (Christ) ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of
truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye
believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise (the Spirit
of Life, Rom 8:2), Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the
redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his
glory (resurrection, power to make alive that which was dead).

Evidence: the distress call of Rom 7:24, the distress call for God's mercy

Assurance: Heb 1:3b when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down
on the right hand of the Majesty on high

Heb 2:11a For both he that sanctifieth and they who are
sanctified *are* all of one:

Now if any person does not have the Spirit of Christ, that person

- is not Jesus' purchased possession
- is not Jesus-kind
- is not in Jesus' kingdom of Light and Life

On the flip-side...

v10 If the Spirit of Christ indwells a person, that person

- is Jesus' purchased possession
- is Jesus-kind
- is a citizen of the kingdom of God
- is one with God

John 17:20-26

And this side of eternity trapped in a mortal body plagued with not being perfect,

- the mortal body, the body of this death, is dead because of sin (wrong-being, wrong-doing)
- the Spirit of Life (v2), the Spirit of Christ (v9), the indwelling Holy Spirit is life because of righteousness...right-being, 1 Cor 1:30

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

v11 If the Spirit of the Father, the Spirit of God, God the Holy Spirit (3rd Person) dwells in you (by faith in what He has done) then the Father will (a promise) raise us from the dead just as He raised His Son Jesus Christ from the dead...the Body will be as the Head

2 Cor 5:1 For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

1 Cor 15:51 We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed

Application/Exhortation

1. Capture/own the joy of no condemnation for sin and for being in your right mind!

- You are “positioned” by Jesus Christ Himself
- In Christ, there is no condemnation for the things you have done or will do
- You are NOT in the flesh, but in the Spirit
- Being in the Spirit (Evidence: Rom 7:24), you have assurance that you are
 - saved from the wrath of God and eternal death (Rom 5:9, 1 Thes 5:9)
 - a child of God

2 Cor 5:17 if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Ps 118:1, 25 O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is* good: because his mercy *endureth* for ever.

The distress call for God's mercy in Rom 7:24 is VERY real...
and so is the triumphant joy of being Jesus-kind!!!

Walk in the joy, walk in the victory Jesus has given us (and will not take it back!)

2. We need to think of "mental illness" and "disability" in the highest sense possible – God's

From God's perspective using His definition, mental health is a choice

Deut 30:15-20

Mental health...a right mind...can ONLY be found at the feet of Jesus Christ where we
rightly reason with our Creator and choose Life and Light

Mental illness...a wrong mind...is rejecting (not believing) God's reasoning and
God's testimony

We need to understand the people in the midst of whom we have been planted

2 Tim 2:24-26 the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*,
apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose
themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the
acknowledging of the truth; And *that* they may recover themselves
out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his
will.

They, the lost, are not in their right mind

We who know Jesus are to make Jesus known, inviting those in darkness to come to the
Light!

Let our lights shine in the darkness!

Let the people around you see, hear, and feel the joy you have in Jesus!

Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every
man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.