

Romans Chapter 8

The focus of this chapter deals with salvation in terms of adoption.

Date: Monday, March 4

Scripture: Romans 8:1-8

Theme: No Condemnation

- Condemnation—to give judgment against—to pass sentence
 - Consider the impossibility of our being condemned and being justified through faith in Christ.
- Once again, Paul sets forth the difference in the law of the Spirit and the law of sin and death.
 - The law of the Spirit is life in Christ—the inevitability of life because of justification
 - The law of sin and death—the inevitability that life apart from Christ will bring death.
 - The Law could not bring life because it was dependent on the flesh
- We could not so “God did.” This is the grace of God’s intrusion in light of our inability.
 - Jesus entered the arena of flesh/sin/death and while in the physical flesh, He condemned sin—passed judgment on it through the cross and resurrection.
- The “requirement of the law”
 - Paul has gone to great lengths to establish our inability to keep the Law.
 - The requirement of the Law is righteousness—the only thing we could not present to the Lord apart from the acceptance of what Jesus did in bringing justification to us.
- “According to the flesh”—to strive for the things of the flesh
 - Death is the realm of existence for the flesh
 - Hostile to God—in opposition to
 - Does not subject to the law of God—it is impossible to subject to God without the Spirit
 - Cannot please God—are not acceptable
- According to the Spirit—to strive for the things of the Spirit
 - Life—the absolute fullness of life
 - Peace—“soul peace”

Date: Tuesday, March 5

Scripture: Romans 8:9-17

Theme: Living Life Alive

- Verse 9: The condition for not dwelling in the flesh is the indwelling of the Spirit because of our justification through faith.
 - Dwell: to have as one's abode—the place of residence
- If Christ is in us, then life is actually alive because of righteousness. We are alive because we have been raised to have life like Jesus.
 - If the Spirit is not within us, then we experience the results of the flesh—sin—death trinity.
 - Ephesians 2:25—John 10:10—Galatians 2:20
- Therefore, because of the indwelling of the Spirit, we are not indebted to the flesh. The inevitability of our living life dominated by the flesh has been cancelled—we don't have to obey it any longer.
- The power to live alive comes from our full adoption
 - A new family and a new Father
 - A new nature—the DNA of the Father
 - A new inevitability—heir with Christ eternally

Date: Wednesday, March 6

Scripture: Romans 8:18-25

Theme: Hope

- Consider verse 18 in association with 2 Corinthians 4:16-17
- Verses 19-22: Paul personifies creation to demonstrate the “utter sinfulness of sin.” 7:13
 - Our sin has thoroughly corrupted the natural order—Genesis 3:17
- Hope—eagerly expecting from a foundation of certainty
 - The three great spiritual virtues: Faith—Hope—Love
 - The neglect of hope serves to weaken faith and dampen the expression of love.
- We hope (expect) for:
 - Our adoption to be perfectly experienced
 - The redemption of the body
 - The revealing of the unseen
- Hope is only in that which is unseen—2 Corinthians 4:18.
 - Sight negates hope
 - Sight will replace faith
 - Love—the nature of God will remain and is eternal

Date: Thursday, March 7

Scripture: Romans 8:26-30

Theme: It's All Coming Together

- *In Christ, we are complete—fully complete. When we realize this, the motivation within the relationship no longer seeks to get what we feel we are missing but rather, to grow in the joy of experiencing what we already have.*
- We are complete so we have a way to pray.
 - We don't know how to fully pray in God's will.
 - We must release our prayers into the Holy Spirit and be open to the limitless possibilities found in Christ.
- Verse 28: Consider how these phrases change the way most people interpret this verse.
 - To work together for good
 - Those who love God
 - Those who are called according to His purpose
- Predestined—to decide beforehand that those who accept salvation are to become conformed to His image.
 - Called—an invitation accepted
 - Justified—to make fully right
 - Glorified—the perfect fulfillment in His presence

Date: Friday, March 8

Scripture: Romans 8:31-39

Theme: Nothing Can!

- Verse 31: Given what has been said, what are the possibilities that exist?
- Verse 32: Proof is offered to show the extent to which God is for us.
 - Paul then argues from the greatest to the least.
 - If God gave Jesus in order to prove His grace, then it follows He will add everything else we need.
- In Christ, we cannot be charged—condemned—separated.
- Charge—to come forward as an accuser
 - You cannot accuse or bring a charge against one who is justified
- Condemn—to give judgment against—to pass sentence on
 - You cannot pass sentence on the justified
- Separated—to come between
 - All things are conquered—we gain a surpassing victory over these things through Christ.

- We are justified and reconciled therefore, separation is impossible.
- Intercede—Jesus makes a petition on our behalf regarding our justification
 - He presents proof and holds us in the position of being justified and reconciled.
- Verse 38: Convinced and Persuaded—to bring about a change of mind by influence
 - Living a life that is continually changed (transformed) by these realities given to us through Jesus.
- It is vital that we realize all that we are in Christ is held by His power—not ours.
 - See John 10:27-30