

Romans 8:1-8

3/7/21

## No Condemnation

### Romans 8:1-4

#### I. Introduction:

##### A. Condemnation

1. Childhood story: I lived under the condemnation of my transgression.

##### B. Condemnation over sin.

1. We have all chosen to do what God forbids & have failed to do what God commands.
2. Because we have all transgressed God's law, the condemnation of God, the judgment of God, is pronounced against us. **"For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23a).**
3. Lost people walk this earth with the impending judgment of God at the end of this life.

#### II. Good News! (Romans 8:1)

##### A. No Condemnation!

1. God has given us a way to be forgiven.
2. There is a way to walk through this life free of the condemnation of God against us.
3. Jesus: Jesus took our sin upon Himself and died in our place.
4. Because the justice of God has been satisfied in Jesus, we can ask for God's forgiveness and He gives us full pardon. In Jesus we are no longer guilty before God.
5. No Condemnation: There is no longer an appointed day of judgment in God's court.
6. Peace and Confidence: We can live this life knowing we are forgiven in Jesus.

##### B. Accusation

1. There is a difference between accusation and condemnation.
2. Even after we are saved we sin. Our human nature is still fallen and attracted to sin.
3. Sin should never be the willful habit of a child of God, but is a part of our lives here.
4. **Revelation 12:10** tells how Satan is the accuser of the brethren, but he's given reasons.
5. The good news is none of his accusations can be entertained. No accusation can stick.

##### C. Application

1. Are you living today with a certain fearful expectation of judgment? (**Heb. 10:26-27**)

#### III. Set free in Jesus (Romans 8:2-4)

##### A. Clarification of terms

###### 1. – Flesh

a. The word flesh is the Greek word *sarx*. It is used in the Bible in two contexts.

###### (1) Literal flesh and blood

a. The word *sarx* is used to speak of the physical body.

###### (2) Human nature

a. Paul also speaks of being *en sarki*, or in the flesh.

b. In this form he's speaking of our fallen human nature & its susceptibility to sin.

## 2. – Spirit

a. The Greek word is *pneumas*.

(1) Literal pneumas is wind.

a. The wind blowing is pneumas. English word pneumatic comes from this word.

b. Wind fills a ship sails & moves it through water. Wind blows & the trees bend.

(2) Spiritual power

a. More importantly Paul speaks of pneumas as the power of the Holy Spirit.

b. The Pneumas means God's divine power that lives in us when we are saved.

## B. What Paul said. (Romans 8:2-4)

### 1. – Difference between life and death

(1) The law of sin

a. The law of sin is the law found in our flesh, our fallen human nature.

b. All that our fallen human nature desires leads to death, wages of sin is death.

(2) The law of the Spirit

a. By contrast the law of the Spirit is life in Jesus.

b. The power of the Holy Spirit in the redeemed child of God moves to obedience

c. Note: We will never reach a state of sinless perfection in this life because we still live with our fallen nature. However, in Holy Spirit sin can be the exception.

### 2. – What the law could not do.

a. The law of God is not sinful, it is perfect and holy.

b. However, the law has never saved anyone from their sin.

c. Law's Function: It reveals to us our weakness & sinfulness. It points us to our need of a Savior!

d. What Jesus Did: Jesus did what we couldn't, He lived perfectly obedient to the law. Then Jesus went to the cross & died for our sin bringing salvation law couldn't

### 3. – What we have in Jesus (Romans 8:4)

a. In Jesus we have the Holy Spirit living in us. We have power of God living in us.

b. It is the Holy Spirit who is daily conforming us to the image of Jesus.

## C. The flesh vs the Spirit

1. In Paul's letter to the church at Galatia, he talked about the difference between walking in the flesh and walking in the Spirit. (**Galatians 5:17-23**)

2. There's perpetual struggle in the Christian life between our fallen sinful nature & Holy Spirit's leading, including our freedom to choose between obedience & disobedience.

3. When we choose to obey God, the Holy Spirit enables us to obey God.

4. Those who live perpetually in the guidance of their fallen human nature give evidence they are not saved. No lost person will ever enter the kingdom of God.

5. There is the contrast between the flesh and the Spirit.