

Living Life in the Power of the Holy Spirit - Handout #2

Romans 8

v.1-4- Condemnation versus Justification. Being in Jesus Christ completely removed the guilt and penalty of our sin. The phrase “who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit” identifies who we now live being in Christ. The Spirit and His work, in this chapter, will be mentioned 19 times. The Spirit of life sets us free from the law of sin and death so, although there is the possibility of our sinning, we don’t live under the dominion of sin. To be free from sin is not never ever sinning or transgressing, but it is the liberty or freedom from the dominion of sin; we are not slaves to sin. We don’t live full of sin. The flesh in its weakness could not accomplish all of the law. The law could neither justify us or sanctify us. But Jesus in the likeness of sinful flesh became an offering for that sin and condemned it so that God’s righteousness could be fulfilled in us.

v.5-11 To be carnal minded is to have your thought habitually focused on things of the flesh, of the world and not on things of God. To have this mindset is spiritual death, in the life that you live on this earth, but to have your mind on the things of God is peace in this life. Carnal thinking is the enemy of God and that mind, that will, is not subject to God’s will. So in that way of thinking we cannot please God. v. 9 But the Spirit of God lives in us so we are not in the flesh. And even if our biological body has to die because of sin, the Spirit is life. And the Spirit will raise us up one day by the same power that raised up Christ.

v.12-14- In Christ we are no longer under the management of flesh, obligated to do what, and go where it bids. We are “Under New Management” If we take orders from old management and give ourselves to fleshly activities, we will not have the full, rich, abundant life God has for us . But if we follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are led by Him, we act like God’s Sons and receive all the benefits of sonship.

v.15-17- the spirit of bondage, of a slave, designates one as a servant, who obeys because he fears punishment from his master. But the Spirit of God in us makes us God’s sons and gives us the right to call Him Father, Abba, and we obey Him because we love Him, we love our Father. His Spirit assures us that we are his children and heirs along with our big brother Jesus. And as we share in his suffering, we know that we will be glorified together with Him.

v. 18 - For the suffering of this world cannot be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.