



Great Freedom

Introduction

- **Context:** In Romans 7, Paul speaks of the struggle with sin and the law. In Romans 8, he presents the solution: life in the Spirit that produces **Great Freedom**.
- **Key Verse (Romans 8:1):** *"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."*

I. The Freedom from Condemnation (Romans 8:1-4)

1. No Condemnation for Those in Christ (v.1)

- The condition for no condemnation: being "in Christ."
- The result: freedom from the penalty of sin, which was the law's ultimate consequence.

2. The Law's Weakness and Christ's Fulfillment (v.2-3)

- The law was powerless to save because it was weakened by the flesh (our sinful nature).
- Jesus came in the likeness of sinful flesh to condemn sin in the flesh, fulfilling the righteous requirement of the law.

3. Walking in the Spirit (v.4)

- Christ's death and resurrection enable believers to walk according to the Spirit, not the flesh.
- The Spirit empowers us to fulfill God's righteous standard, something the law could never do.

II. The Two Realms: Flesh vs. Spirit (Romans 8:5-8)

1. The Mind Set on the Flesh (v.5-6)

- Those who live according to the flesh are focused on things of the flesh: sin, selfishness, and temporal matters.
- The result of setting the mind on the flesh is death—both spiritual death and physical separation from God.

2. The Mind Set on the Spirit (v.6)

- Life and peace are the result of focusing on the Spirit. The Spirit brings us closer to God and enables us to live in harmony with His will.

3. The Hostility of the Flesh (v.7-8)

- The mind set on the flesh is hostile to God. It cannot submit to God's law because it is inherently sinful.
- Those who are in the flesh cannot please God, highlighting the need for a radical change—being born again and living by the Spirit.

III. The Believer's Identity: Alive in the Spirit (Romans 8:9-11)

1. The Indwelling Spirit (v.9)

- Believers are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit. The presence of the Spirit marks them as belonging to Christ.
- The Spirit's indwelling means that we are not controlled by our sinful nature but are empowered to live in newness of life.

2. The Resurrection Life (v.10)

- Our bodies are still subject to death because of sin, but the Spirit gives life.
- The same Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead lives in believers, guaranteeing the resurrection of our mortal bodies.

3. The Hope of Resurrection (v.11)

- The Spirit will give life to our bodies, ensuring our future resurrection and eternal life with God.
- The resurrection power of the Spirit is already at work within us, empowering us to live godly lives now.

IV. Application

1. **Living Free from Condemnation** - Reflect on the truth that there is no condemnation for those in Christ. If you feel weighed down by guilt or shame, remember Christ's finished work on the cross.
2. **Walking in the Spirit** - Pursue the Spirit's leading in everyday decisions. The Spirit empowers believers to live in a way that honors God.
3. **Setting Your Mind on the Spirit** - Evaluate your mindset. Are you focusing on the things of the Spirit (godly values, the Word, prayer), or are you consumed by worldly desires and anxieties?
4. **Hope in the Resurrection** - Our future is secure in Christ, and this should bring us hope, joy, and strength to endure trials in this life.

Conclusion

- Romans 8:1-11 teaches that believers are no longer condemned but freed through the work of Christ. The Holy Spirit empowers us to live a new life, focusing on eternal things and not on the fleeting pleasures of the flesh.
- Let us walk in the Spirit, setting our minds on the things above, and live with the confident hope of resurrection and eternal life with Christ.
- Ask the Lord to help us live according to the Spirit, to renew our minds, and to give us the strength to overcome sin, living in the victory Christ has already won for us.