



A Walk Through Romans

Victorious Living in the Spirit – (Rom 8)

Vertical Life Church

Introduction - Recap

- Without God's intervention, we all stand condemned (ch 3)
- Salvation is by grace through faith apart from works (ch 4)
- Salvation is forever (ch 5)
- We are now free from dominion of sin (ch 6)
- We are free from the Law through our symbolic death to ourselves (ch 7)
- End of story? Where do we go from here?

A Higher Law (8:1-4)

- There is no condemnation (v1)
 - Law is full of condemnation
 - Law had only limited atonement
 - New covenant has no condemnation for those “in Christ”
 - Analogy with Noah and the ark
 - Pitch was applied inside and out. Pitch in Hebrew is *koper*
 - *Koper* also means *ransom*; also used for the ½ shekel Temple tax (Exo 30:12; Mat 17:27)
 - *Koper* comes from root word *kaphar* which means atonement.
 - God sealed Noah in the ark to protect him from condemnation
 - We are sealed by God in Christ to protect us from condemnation

A Higher Law (8:1-4)

- There is no condemnation (v1)
- A New (Higher) Law – No control by sin (v2)
 - Spirit of Life is stronger than the law of death – just as Jesus who is Life (John 14:6) could not be contained by death (Acts 2:24)
 - We have moved from one jurisdiction to a superior one

A Higher Law (8:1-4)

- There is no condemnation (v1)
- A New (Higher) Law – No control by sin (v2)
- A Better Law – No continuing in sin (vv3-4)
 - The Law was perfect for its purposes (Psa 19:7)
 - It was weak because it depended on men to follow (Rom 3:20)
 - Law did not do away with sin. It exposed sin
 - Law did not condemn sin. It condemned the sinner
 - Jesus condemned sin by living sinless life and then dying for (our) sin
 - We are not set free from Law as “get out of hell free” card; we are set free for a purpose (v4)

A New Focus (5-13)

- **The Fleshly Focus (5-8)**

- Bible has many examples of a fleshly focus
 - Abraham attempting to fulfill God's promise with Hagar
 - Lot choosing the land toward Sodom
 - Esau selling his birthright for a bowl of soup
 - Isaac's entire encounter with Jacob around the blessing
 - Moses killing the Egyptian guard
 - David lusting after Bathsheba
 - Solomon marrying foreign wives
 - The disciples arguing about who was greatest
 - Peter smiting Malchus

A New Focus (5-13)

- The Fleshly Focus (5-8)

- Bible has many examples of a fleshly focus
- Mind set on the flesh is death (6); i.e. cannot please God
- Mind set on the Spirit is life and peace
- Mind set on the flesh is hostile to God (7)
- Even well intentioned fleshly minds cannot please God (8)

A New Focus (5-13)

- The Fleshly Focus (5-8)
- The Spirit Focus (9-13)
 - Not just a new (godly) attitude. Must be born again (9)
 - V10 describes the conflict: alive spirit, but fleshly (dead) body
 - Ultimately conflict will end when spirit makes our body truly alive (11)
 - Paul restates what he described in ch 6, that we are not obligated to sin and we should play to that spiritual side that is now awakened in us (12-13)

The Transformed Life (14-39)

- Completed Transformation (14-17a)
 - A positional change was made when we first believed (Col 1:13)
 - We are now adopted by God (14)
 - What does it mean to be led by the Spirit?
 - He brings to our minds scripture relevant to our situations (John 14:26)
 - He testifies about Jesus (John 15:26)
 - He guides us into truth (John 16:13)
 - He helps us to progress from fleshly to spiritual to be like Jesus (Gal 5:18-26)
 - God has incredibly made us to be heirs (15-17a)
 - Intimate relationship (15)
 - Complete communication with the Spirit (16)

The Transformed Life (14-39)

- Completed Transformation (14-17a)
- Ongoing Transformation (17b-23)
 - Heirs w/ Christ implies sharing in some suffering (17b-18), not as a requirement but as an inevitable outcome (2 Tim 3:12; 1 Pet 3:14-15)
 - The (fallen) Universe groans to be restored (19-22)
 - We too groan (struggle) as we wait for the revelation of what has already been set in place (23; Col 3:3-4)

The Transformed Life (14-39)

- Completed Transformation (14-17a)
- Ongoing Transformation (17b-23)
- Future Transformation (24-27)
 - Hope here is not the same as hope the way the world views it
 - Wishes – “I hope it doesn’t rain tomorrow”
 - Wanting an outcome I have little evidence for
 - Wanting an outcome that is counter to what I deserve
 - Our Hope is based on the character and promises of God (24-25)
 - Our Hope works hand in hand with our Faith
 - Our Hope is actively aided by the Spirit (26-27)

The Transformed Life (14-39)

- Completed Transformation (14-17a)
- Ongoing Transformation (17b-23)
- Future Transformation (24-27)
- Full Assurance (28-39)
 - Full Assurance that God is in control (28)
 - Full Assurance that God's Plan is complete (29-30)
 - Full Assurance that Satan has no more power (31-34)
 - Full Assurance that nothing in creation has victory over us (35-39)