

Jesus BC: New Spirit, Old Sin? Romans 7-8

(1) The Old Testament promised that through the Messiah, God would pour out His Spirit and give His people new hearts.

- ❖ Deuteronomy 30:6; Isaiah 59:20-21; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 36:26-28; Zechariah 12:10-13:2; Joel 2:28-30.
- ❖ This promise was a big deal for two reasons
 - The Israelite were always straying from God.
 - With God's Spirit, people became amazing warriors, inspired prophets, skilled artists, and wise sages.

(2) This promise was fulfilled in Acts 2. Christians were baptized in the Spirit.

- ❖ They spoke in other languages, proclaimed the gospel boldly, did miracles, and had supernatural love and wisdom.
- ❖ And yet, the early church was very far from perfect.
 - Non-Christian Jews argued that if Christians really had the Holy Spirit, they would obey God's law perfectly.

(3) In Romans 7-8, Paul explains why Spirit-filled people are not perfect. By the Spirit we delight in God's law and want to please Him. But we are still trapped in bodies inclined toward sin. We have not yet received our glorified resurrection bodies. As a result, we are not righteous under the law, even with the Spirit. However, there is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus because He took our punishment and gave us his righteousness. Even though we are not perfect, when we fix our mind on what God's Spirit desires, we will see growth and produce good fruit. And we can overcome sinful habits by trusting that God's ways are for our joy.



Questions from Nov 9, 2025

Ice Breakers

- (1) Share how you are doing and pray for each other.
- (2) Did anyone in your group go to the *Imago Dei* Biblical Sexuality Conference? If so, share what stood out to you.

Digging Deeper

- (3) Read Point 1 in the sermon notes and all the verses. Why was the promise of the Holy Spirit a really big deal?
- (4) Read Point 2. Explain why the reality of the Holy Spirit in a Christian's life be an amazing blessing, but also disappointing / discouraging at times?
- (5) Read Romans 7:14 – 8:6 and Point 3. What is Paul's explanation for why Christians still struggle with sin and what encouragement does he give?

Living Out

- (6) Pastor Dave said that the root cause of habitual sin is not a lack of self-control, but a lack of faith. To resist a specific sin, we must believe that God and God's ways will make us happier. Do you agree? Why?
- (7) Pastor Dave also said that to break habitual sin, we need to form:
 - New godly habits in that area.
 - New fences to protect us from temptation.
 - New levels of Support and Accountability.

Which of these do you strongly agree with, or not understand?