

Romans 8

Jesus

Why Romans? To know who we are in Christ to better fulfill our purpose...
To Glorify God by Loving Neighbors into the Kingdom

- **End of Ch. 7** Desire of the real me wants to please God...so

Romans 7:25b... with the mind I myself serve the law of God but w/ the flesh the law of sin.

I. Free from Indwelling Sin

1 There is therefore now **no condemnation** to those who are **in Christ Jesus**

- **Therefore:** Because I am in Christ...I am not condemned

Our true worth/worthiness for heaven can never legitimately be questioned/judged because our standing before God has **already been established** in Christ who declared us righteous as we trusted in Him. Not only is there **no condemnation now**...but there will **never be condemnation** for all who are in Christ. [NJC]

- No condemnation for those in Christ...

1b... *who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.*

- **Conditional?**

These words are not found in the earliest ancient manuscripts of the Book of Romans and they do not agree with the flow of Paul's context here. They were probably added by a copyist who either made a mistake or thought he could "help" Paul by adding these words from Romans 8:4 [NASB omits 1b] ... While it is true that those who are in Christ should not and do not consistently walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit, this is **not a condition for their status of no condemnation. Our position in Jesus Christ is the reason for our standing of no condemnation.** [Guzik]

- **Condemned:** Judged Guilty
 1. Believers are not/will never be condemned
 2. Unbelievers are already condemned

John 3:18 "He who believes in Him **is not condemned**; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Fact: There is no condemnation now/forever to those who believe/in Christ Jesus
Since there is no condemnation for Jesus...those in Him will not/cannot be condemned

- Our Standing before God? **No condemnation!**
- We still Sin? Why are we not condemned?

Jesus took our sin past/present/future on the Cross. **It's gone...**

2 For the **law of the Spirit of life** in Christ Jesus has **made me free** from

the law of sin and death.

The law could not defeat sin; it could only detect sin. Only Jesus can defeat sin, and He did just that through His work on the cross. [Guzik]

- **Law of Sin and Death** was my master Trying to be good own effort Ends in failure/death
- **Law of Spirit of Life** now is my master Desire for Good Begins Victory/New Life

3 For what the law **could not do** in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh...

- Man sinned against God. It must be a man/human to pay the price for sin which is death
- It must be the death of a man who is innocent/blameless in keeping the law

We are born sinners...Trying to keep the law 100% Is over before it starts So, Righteousness for us through the law is a non-starter...The Law couldn't do it

So, what could be done? God sent His perfect Son [Last Adam] to *become a man* and keep the Law *as a man* for us. Now, the innocent Son of God would die on a cross condemning sin that we might receive His Spirit and Eternal Life. **Problem Solved:** The Law kept perfectly by a perfect man/ Sin is judged/condemned as an innocent man is crucified...What the law could not do because we could not keep it, Jesus did...**The salvation of our souls.** [NJC]

- Law could not do it...

Hebrews 9:14 ... how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

- Plan of Salvation before man created...

1 Peter 1:18 [Don't you know?] you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers [religion], 19 but with the **precious blood of Christ**, as of a **lamb without blemish and without spot**. 20 He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you 21 who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

- Jesus [God] came in the *likeness* of sinful flesh...w/out sin
- Jesus did not have sin nature of Adam/Not born in sin but Holy Spirit
- Jesus kept the Law...then Jesus took our sin/humanity **in His body...**

1 Peter 2:24 ... [He] Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness

God our condemned/punished our sin/guilt by punishing His innocent Son on cross

... **4** that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not **walk according** to the flesh but according to the **Spirit**.

Because Jesus fulfilled the righteous requirement of the law, and because we are in Christ,

we fulfill the law. The law is fulfilled **in us** in regard to obedience, because Jesus' righteousness stands for ours. The law is fulfilled in us in regard to punishment, because any punishment demanded by the law was poured out upon Jesus. Paul **does not say that we fulfill the righteous requirement of the law**. He carefully says that the righteous requirement of the law is fulfilled **in us**. It isn't fulfilled by us, but in us. [Guzik]

- **We are now called to Walk** according to the Spirit?
 1. Not according to the mind trying to keep rules
 2. Not according to the flesh that wants to break the law

Life Practices/Direction/Motivation. Free from condemnation of Mind/Flesh

Reckoning the Old Man Dead...Yielding to the Spirit of Freedom

Romans 6:13 ... do not present [yield] your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present [yield] yourselves to God...**16** Do you not know that to whom you present [yield] yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey...**19b** For just as you [previously] presented [yielded] your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present [yield] your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.

- **Walk in Spirit/Yield to God**
 1. Naturally/supernaturally exemplify the attributes of God in you
 2. **Yield and grow:** Holiness/Humility as we yield to Spirit

Galatians 5:24 ...those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also **walk in the Spirit**. [Warning] 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

- Pride/Arrogance betray a person's claim to Spirit of God

Those who walk in the Spirit desire to **make the God's Spirit glad...**

Ephesians 4:30 ... do not **grieve the Holy Spirit of God**, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Nehemiah 8:10b... the joy of the Lord is your strength.

- **According to the Spirit means we have a new motivation:** Love for God/To please Him

2 Corinthians 5:14 ... the **love of Christ compels us...**

- Received His Spirit when we believed...

Ephesians 1:13 In Him you also trusted, after you **heard the word of truth**, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having **believed**, you were **sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise...**

- Holy Spirit makes known God's love for us...Gives us a love for Him

Romans 5:5 ... the **love of God** has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

New Walk led by a New Spirit: New Direction/Motivation

Romans 6:4 [Old lives] ...were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should **walk in newness of life.**

- **Should Walk in the Spirit: Yielding to Him** Evidenced in Lifestyle/Life choices of a saved individual

Ephesians 4:1 ... to **walk worthy** of the calling with which you were called...

- **Called to be Ambassadors of Christ and we can be...**
 1. **BC Foolish?** Spirit is Wisdom
 2. **BC Bitterness?** Spirit is Love/Forgiveness

Ephesians 5:2 ...**walk in love**, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma... **15** See then that you walk **circumspectly** [carefully], not as fools but as wise...

NOTE: Still a choice but lifestyle in general will choose right

- **BC Darkness/Deceit?** Spirit is Light

1 John 1:7 But if we **walk in the light** as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

- **Sanctification:** Becoming more/more like Jesus
- **Salvation is free.** Sanctification is not. Yielding sometimes hurts

1 John 2:6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk **just as He walked.**

Those truly in Christ have been changed/will continue to be changed
No change? No Christ...O Christ no Spirit...
No matter what we know/what we say. Holiness/Humility/Love

The Spirit direction is Life/Peace

5 For those who **live** [walk] according to the flesh **set their minds** on the things of the flesh, but those who **live** [walk] according to the Spirit, [sent their minds on] the **things of the Spirit.**

- **NOTE:** Those who walk in the Spirit are saved/Those who don't are not **v9**

John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

- **2 Categories of people in world: Saved/Not saved:** No in between
- **Changes begin at Salvation:** Naturally/Supernaturally **thinking of Eternal**

Colossians 3:1 **If then** you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. **2 Set your mind on things above**, not on things on the earth.

6 For to be carnally [fleshly] minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the **carnal mind is enmity against God**; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

- **Carnal Man is Dead:** Separated from God/Led by feelings/lust/animalistic

Ephesians 2:1 ... you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

- Man living to satisfy sin nature/feelings/pride/ego/trying to be good apart...HATES God/Alienated
- Carnal Mind/Unsaved: No ability to keep law even if it wanted to. Don't expect it

God's Word: Meaningless to unregenerate man **until the Spirit intervenes...**

1 Corinthians 2:14 ... the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are **spiritually discerned**.

The Carnal Mind hates God: Hates Life/Light/Love of God
No ability to please God...because not led by Spirit

- **Two Flavors of Carnality in Book of Romans...**

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Obvious Carnality | Unsaved Pagan | Blatant Wickedness | Mean face |
| 2. Cloaked Carnality | Unsaved Religious | Self-righteousness | Smiling face [Angel Light] |

...both separated from God/Enemies of the Cross

Philippians 3:18 [Walk as we do] ...For many walk [believing they are saved], of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the **enemies of the cross of Christ**: 19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things. 20 [For those who love Jesus] ... our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body...

8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

- Saved man walking in the flesh cannot please God but desires to...not a pig but a son
- Unsaved man cannot please God because he does not believe

Hebrews 11:6 ... without faith it is **impossible to please Him**, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

- **Greatest evidence of the Spirit is love...**

John 13:35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have **love for one another**.

1 John 3:8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil...**10** In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not

practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.

Non- Christians can never please God...We who are can still grieve the Spirit

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

We are either saved or we are not...No such thing as a carnal Christian

If you have the Spirit of God you are saved. If you don't have the Spirit of Christ, you are not saved. If you have the Spirit of God, you will generally seek the things of God. If you don't have the Spirit of God, you won't and won't care and are not listening right now... [NJC]

2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? —unless indeed you are disqualified.

- **NOTE:** Spirit of God/Spirit of Christ interchangeable **V9**

Q. Is Jesus Living His Life Through You?

10 And if [since] Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

- When Jesus died...we died /When Jesus rose...we rose
- **Today:** Spirit of Life continues to Sanctify us/Give us real life...

2 Corinthians 4:16 ... the inward man is being renewed day by day.

11 But if the Spirit of Him [Father] who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Our Bodies are the Temple of the Holy Spirit

- **Q.** Is the Holy Spirit the Spirit of the Father or Jesus. **A. Yes**
- **A.** Who dwells in us when we are saved? **A. Trinity: Father, Son and Spirit**

John 14:23 ... "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

2 Peter 1:4 [We have been given...] great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature

- If we are indwelt by the Godhead, yielding to Him...

We will naturally/supernaturally exemplify attributes of God not mere men
Holiness, Righteousness joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

- **More than mere men:** Natural Bodies equipped for God's Supernatural purposes

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present

your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

We don't have to sin anymore...We get to live in Newness of Life

Romans 6:4b just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should **walk in newness of life...18** And having been **set free from sin**, you became slaves of righteousness... **22** But now having been **set free from sin**, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

Spirit of God in Us! Walking in Newness of Life

Colossians 1:27 ... God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is **Christ in you**, the hope of glory.

Motivated by our Love of Christ. Empowered by the Spirit of Christ. Actually, commanded not to worry but beckoned to walk with the Lord in cool of the day glorifying Him by simply loving others into His kingdom by the power of His Spirit in us. Yielding to His will, Going His direction, Waiting on His strength, Listening to His voice. Not trying harder ... but drawing closer, Striving to enter His rest and in turn Bearing good fruit. **Walking in Newness of Life.**

SUMMARY Free from Indwelling Sin

- When we trusted Jesus, **His Spirit made His residence in us...**

II. Sonship Through the Spirit God our Father/Jesus our Brother

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, **you will live.**

- We owe **nothing** to our old lives...

Romans 6:20 [Q.] ...when you were slaves of sin...**21** What fruit did you have... in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| ▪ Flesh | Self/Pride focused | Eternal Death | Separation from God |
| ▪ Spirit | God/Others focused | Eternal Life | Lit. Family of God |

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, **these are sons of God.** 15 For you did not receive the **spirit of bondage again to fear**, but you received the **Spirit of adoption** by whom we cry out, "**Abba, Father.**"

Since the Spirit of Jesus, the **Son of God** lives in us
We have a new relationship with God... Jesus our brother/God our Father

Hebrews 2:11 ... both He who sanctifies [Spirit] and those who are being sanctified [us] are all of one, for which reason He [Jesus] is not ashamed to call [us] **brethren...**

Hebrews 2:12 [Prophesied in Isaiah re. post res.] "I [Jesus] will declare Your name to **My brethren**; In the midst of the assembly, I will sing praise to You."

- God became man/brother of sinners/**die for His siblings...**

Hebrews 2:17 ... in all things He [Son of God] had to be made like **His brethren**, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation [take our place] for the sins of the people.

- As Jesus is our brother/God is our Father...

Luke 11:2 "When you pray, say: **Our Father in heaven...**

- New Relationship w/Jesus **Brother**
- New Relationship w/God **Father**

Incredible New Relationship with our Creator

- **No longer Legalistic:** Based of Bondage/Fear
- **Love Relationship:** Chosen for adoption/wanted/desired by the Father

John 1:12 ...as many as received Him, to them He gave the right [authority] to become **children of God**, to those who believe in His name...

1 John 3:1 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called **children of God!**

Jesus is the only begotten Son of God/We are adopted sons of God
We with our brother Jesus call the God the Father **Abba/Daddy**

- **Abba:** Is Jesus Daddy

Mark 14:36 And He said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will."

- **Abba:** Is our Daddy because of Jesus our brother

Galatians 4:6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "**Abba, Father!**"

- **Daddy?**

1. Caring Heart: Comfort/Discipline/Counsel
2. Observing eyes: Protection/Provision/Love
3. Listening ears: Listening = Love: Prayer are like Incense
4. Strength/Encouragement of a Father that is Love

Do you have a dad like that? Yes... you do have a Dad like that

Psalm 68:4 Sing to God, sing praises to His name; Extol Him who rides on the clouds, By His name Yah, And rejoice before Him. 5 A **father of the fatherless**, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation. 6 God **sets the solitary in families...**

- Spirit of Jesus within all believers cries out **daddy...**

16 The **Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit** that we are **children of God**. 17 and if [since we are] children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified

together.

- **Since we're sons/daughters** ...we are heirs of the Father
- **Since we're siblings** ...we are joint heirs w/Christ or what? Everything

How does Spirit bear witness we are God's kids?

If indeed we suffer with Him/for Him in this Life

Hebrews 12:7 If you endure chastening, God **deals with you as with sons**; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? 8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons...**10b** [Reason?]. . . for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. 11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

- **Identification with Jesus?** Package Deal
 1. Gift of Eternal Salvation
 2. Gift of Temporal Suffering

Philippians 1:29 For to you it has been **granted** on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but **also to suffer for His sake...**

We will never be closer to God/Never more fully aware of God as our Father/Daddy than when we identify with His Son through suffering. [NJC]

SUMMARY Sonship Through the Spirit

III. From Suffering to Glory Waiting for the Change

18 For [but] I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

2 Corinthians 4:17 For our **light affliction**, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and **eternal weight** of glory...

- **Temporal Suffering vs. Eternal Glory**
 1. Standing for truth when no one else is
 2. Turning off movie/shutting down computer
 3. Sickness/Injury/Being shunned/Taken advantage of
 4. Slandered/Gossiped/Misunderstood/Treated unfairly?
- Jesus as one Son to another says to us **"I get it"**. Not from on high/experientially

Temporal Suffering vs Eternal Glory?

1 Peter 1: 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an **inheritance incorruptible** and **undefiled** and that does not fade away, **reserved in heaven for you**, 5 who are kept by the power of God through faith

for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been **grieved by various trials**, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith—the **salvation of your souls**.

- We get taste every now/then

1 Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 **But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.**

Psalm 16:11 ... At Your right hand are **pleasures forevermore**.

- We can hardly wait for that reality...

Rest of God's creation also knows He's not finished with us...

19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now we are **children of God**; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. [Our hope] 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; 21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

- All creation including us are under the curse of sin: Everything/Almost world

The Wet Blanket Covering the Entire Earth will be Removed...

Isaiah 25:7 And [Jesus] will destroy on this mountain The surface of the covering cast over all people, And the veil that is spread over all nations. 8 He will swallow up death forever, And the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces...

- **Curse Reversed:** Creation will be renewed including us...

I thought we were finished? Redeemed completely? Not yet

We know more work needs to be done. One more step...

22 For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.

- **Creation Groans** waiting for Regeneration

23 Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even **we**

ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

- **We groan within ourselves:** Spirit longing for things made right/complete

Psalm 6:2 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak; O Lord, heal me, for my bones are troubled. 3 My soul also is greatly troubled; But You, O Lord—how long? 4 Return, O Lord, deliver me! Oh, save me for Your mercies' sake!

We groan awaiting the final step of Redemption...Our Bodies Adoption papers signed filed in the Eternal Registry. Home with Dad

2 Corinthians 5:1 [Waiting for the change] For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our **habitation which is from heaven**, 3 if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. 4 For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. 6 So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. 7 For we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

- **When?** At death/rapture whichever comes first...

Colossians 3:4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and **we shall be changed**. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

- Redemption of our mortal bodies...

Ephesians 1:13b... you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance **until the redemption** of the purchased possession [our bodies], to the praise of His glory.

We Groan in Hope

Not a **maybe** kind of hope but a **when**, let's get this over with, kind of hope...

24 For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? 25 **But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait** for it with perseverance...

2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Hebrews 11:1 ...faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

[If] Physical eyesight produces ... evidence of visible things; [Then] faith is the organ which

enables people to see the invisible order. [Bruce]

1 Corinthians 2:10 [Not blind faith for...] God has revealed [a taste] through His Spirit.

- Spirit helps us to wait and persevere

Spirit helps us when we grow so weary don't know what to pray for

26 Likewise the Spirit also **helps in our weaknesses**. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Sometimes we do not know what we should pray for...

- Mother of James/John prayed for sons to sit on right/left in Kingdom

Matthew 20:22 But Jesus answered and said, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "**We are able.**" [James first among 11 to die, John suffered on Patmos]

- **2000 years ago:** Jesus taught His disciples to pray...

Matthew 6:9 Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. 13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

- **Today:** Jesus Spirit within us teaches/guides us in prayer...

John 14:26 [I am leaving but...] the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, **He will teach you all things**, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

- **Spirit** intercedes for us on Earth Digs Deep
- **Jesus** intercedes for us in Heaven

Hebrews 7:25 [Jesus] is...able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always **lives to make intercession for them**. [also, later v34]

- Big brother sticks up for us against the accusing bully...

1 John 2:1 ... if **anyone sins**, we have an **Advocate with the Father**, Jesus Christ the righteous.

- **Dad, this one belongs to me**

27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints **according to the will of God**.

Spirit Searches our Hearts/Knows our needs even when we don't

1 Chronicles 28:9b... the Lord searches all hearts/understands all the intent of the thoughts.

When the Spirit leads us in prayer... we pray precisely/our prayers are answered

1 John 5:14 ... this is the confidence that we have in Him, **that if we ask anything according to His will**, He hears us.

▪ **So...**

1. We have been adopted into the family of God: God our Father/Jesus brother
2. Confirmation? Salvation + Temporal Suffering for Him leading to Eternal Glory
3. Waiting for the Change: We Groan. One last thing to be redeemed. Our Bodies
4. Spirit helps us pray according to the will of God as we wait for that change

Philippians 3:20 For our **citizenship is in heaven**, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, **21** who will transform our lowly body that it may be **conformed to His glorious body...**

28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also **predestined to be conformed** to the image of His Son

Promise only to His children...No one else

God will use all things for our good to conform us into the image of Jesus

▪ **All things:**

1. Easy/excruciating, fair/unfair, practical/illogical, beautiful/horrific
2. Things we cause, God allows, Satan throws at us, enemies plans against us...

God will use it all to conform into the image of His Son

His love, His humility, His endurance, His relationship w/His Father

Philippians 1:6b ... He who has begun a **good work** in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ...

Q. What is that good work? What is God's purpose for us here and now?

A. Sanctification/Become more, more like Jesus till He comes

Ephesians 1:11 [We are...] predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will

- No accidents/No coincidences for a child of God...
- **All things work together** to achieve God's desired/sure outcome

We are Predestined to be Conformed

- **Like a computer:** No matter what fed in will recalculate produce the desired outcome

To reveal the Beauty of God's Son in Us
We are in process as we await our complete change...

2 Corinthians 3:18 [We behold...] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the **same image** from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

- Predestined to be conformed to the image of God's Son...

29b... that He [Jesus] might be the firstborn among many brethren.

- **Firstborn:** Speaking of Preeminence/First position in the family...

Colossians 1:15 [Jesus]... is the image of the invisible God, the **firstborn over all creation...18** And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the **firstborn from the dead**, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

- **Firstborn:** First to rise from the dead. Prototype for those who follow...His brethren

IOW's Because Jesus rose from the dead first and was glorified first

Those that follow Him are predestined to do the same...Rise and be Glorified

30 Moreover whom He **predestined**, these He also **called**; whom He called, these He also **justified**; and whom He justified, these He also **glorified**.

We are Called/Justified/Glorified: Past Tense/Done Deal in God's Eyes
God sees the whole parade: God sees all things as in the present

- **Called:** Called to Salvation

1 Corinthians 1:9 Called to fellowship **with Jesus**

Galatians 1:6,15 Called **into Grace**...Called **through Grace**

Galatians 5:8 Called **by God**

2 Thessalonians 2:14 Called **by the Gospel**

God calls all to Salvation: Those that answer yes to the call are predestined to be conformed to the image of the Son of God. [NJC]

- **Called:** To Salvation.
- **Justified:** Declared Righteous

1 Corinthians 6:11 And such were some of you. [Really bad sinners and destined for hell] **But you were washed**, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Galatians 2:16 [Justified: Imparted righteousness apart from the law] ... a man is not justified by the works of the law but by **faith in Jesus Christ**, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by **faith in Christ** and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

- Justified: Declared Righteous. It is finished.
- **Glorified:** Done deal in economy of God...

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has **not yet been revealed** what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, **we shall be like Him**, for we shall see Him as He is.

- Called: To Salvation
- Justified: Declared Righteous. It is finished.

- **Glorified:** Conformed into the image of Jesus. It is finished

Final Change/Regeneration/Eternal Life/Who we are created to be

SUMMARY From Suffering to Glory

IV. God's Everlasting Love

31 What then shall we say to these things?

- **What things?**
 1. No Condemnation: Not now/Not ever
 2. Adopted: Sons/Daughters of the Living God
 3. Heirs: All things with Jesus our brother
 4. Predestined: To grow from glory-glory into image of Son of God
 5. **Called:** Wanted by God/Drawn by Him and to Him
 6. **Justified:** Declared Righteous with a Righteousness apart from us
 7. **Glorified:** Changed and forever with the Lord for Eternity. So then...

31b... If [since] God is for us, who can be against us?

I know it's hard and sometimes looks/feels like we're losing, but good news...
If God is so clearly for us...**who can who can win against us?**

Numbers 14:9 [Do not fear our enemies] ... for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the Lord is with us. Do not fear them.

Think about it... Selah

32 [If] He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also **freely give us all things?**

Romans 5:6 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly... **10** For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

- **So then...** Since God did not spare His own Son to save our souls...

33 Who shall [could] **bring a charge** against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he who condemns?

Who is he who condemns?

- God is the Only One who's say matters
- God says our Salvation is a done deal...It is finished. Called/Justified/Glorified
 1. He is the One we sinned against, thus...
 2. He is the only One can forgive us...**and He did**
 3. He is the One who paid for our sin, thus...
 4. He is the Only One to declare us Righteous...**and He did**

Who has the audacity to say otherwise? Condemn us? Accuse us?

Other people, the devil, the world, our conscience? None of the above

- **Who is he who condemns?**

34b... It is Christ who died [not them], and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Hebrews 1:3 ... who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Hebrews 7:25 Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

We get the feeling Paul is giving our enemies a warning:
Dangerous to Condemn God's Kids

- **God did the work:** Condemning God's work in us...is condemning God
 1. Jesus died for our sins
 2. Jesus rose for our life
 3. Jesus is Glorified and is advocating on our behalf...

As quick as Satan condemns...
Jesus intercedes to the Father on our behalf

Hebrews 9:11 [... Jesus enters the presence of the Father on our behalf...] 12 Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with **His own blood** He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. 13 For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying [cleansing] of the flesh **...24** For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, **now to appear in the presence of God** for us...

When Satan accuses us; i.e., those God has redeemed...
He is claiming Jesus' blood was insufficient. God don't like that

- **Jesus:** Big brother sticks up for us to the Father/against accusers

1 John 2:1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

- **So then, Think about this. Selah...**

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

- **Answered questions...**

1. If God is for us, who can win against us? **No one**
2. If God did not spare His own Son ..., shall He not also freely give us all things? **Yes.**
3. Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? **No one**
4. Who is he who legitimately condemns? **No one**

So then...Who [can] shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Sometimes it does not look/feel like we're winning...Paul knows that

36 As it is written: "For Your [God's] sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter."

- Never begin the Gospel with addressing the persons felt needs
- Always begin the Gospel with the Law and issue of sin

Word of God never promises His kids a rose garden in this life...

Acts 9:16 For I will show [Paul] how many things he must suffer for My name's sake.

Acts 20:24 [Paul's Eternal Perspective w/regard to suffering] But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

1 Corinthians 4:9 For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a **spectacle to the world**, both to angels and to men.

1 Corinthians 15:30 And why do we stand in jeopardy every hour?

- **Q.** Why suffering for God's kids? **A.** For God's Glory and Our Growth

2 Corinthians 1:9 Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead...

2 Corinthians 4:10 [Why? A. Die to Live] ... always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the **life of Jesus** also may be manifested in our body.

2 Corinthians 6:9 [Our weakness displays God's strength. We are seen as] ... unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed...

37 Yet **in all these things** we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

In the midst of a World of Chaos...Peace and Victory though Jesus

John 16:33 ... **in Me you may have peace.** In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer [victorious attitude], I have overcome the world."

1 Corinthians 15:57 ...thanks be to God, who gives us the **victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

2 Corinthians 2:14 Now thanks be to God who **always leads us in triumph in Christ...**

1 John 5:4 ... whatever is born of God overcomes the world. **And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith...**

Paul learned to trust God completely...that whatever came his way was not a coincidence or accident but in the providence of God to conform him into the image of Jesus and he would come out the other side of a trial stronger, wiser and/or more loving here on earth...or be with the Lord in glory which would be far better [NJC]

Philippians 1:20 [Paul's attitude] .. that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be **magnified in my body, whether by life or by death.** 21 For to me, **to live is Christ, and to die is gain...**23 For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire **to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.**

More than conquerors? How practically?

Faith. Live like we are convinced God's Word/Promises are true

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Paul is fully persuaded that he is secure in His Father's lap...
All things that happen to him/around him are working together for good

- **No matter what it looks/feels like** nothing can take us from Jesus...
 1. Fear of Death or Trials of Life
 2. Demonic manifestations/Our thorn in side
 3. Current Circumstances/Future Trials
 4. Height/Depth; Surprises... ups/downs in life
 5. Not any other **created thing....**

Nothing created is able to separate us from our Creator. Abba.

Nothing is able to tear us from the Love of God in Jesus our Lord. We are safe

- **Q. How did Paul become so persuaded?**
- **A.** By asking/answering his own questions as trials/doubts came...
 1. If God is for me, who can win against me? **No one**
 2. If God did not spare His own Son ..., shall He not also freely give me all things? **Yes.**
 3. Who shall bring a charge against me, God's elect? **No one**
 4. Who is he who legitimately condemns me? **No one**

We are more than conquerors though Jesus our Lord

Let's live like we're convinced God's Promises are true...**Because they are!**

SUMMARY God's Everlasting Love

