Romans 8 – 17 January 2021 "Living With Christ In You"

Introduction

- *Paul wrote to the Roman church the greatest document on our salvation that there is
- *We've seen our slavery to sin & the benefits of becoming righteous by God's gift of grace thru Jesus
- *In chap 6-8 Paul talks about growing in sanctification in this new life in Christ
- *We've been confronted w/ many choices in Romans
 - Rom 1 Do u see yourself as naturally bad or good?
 - Rom 3 Do u see the Law as a help or hinderance?
 - Rom 5 Will we be in Adam or in Christ Jesus?
 - Rom 7 Will we walk in the flesh or in the Spirit?

Chap 8 give us 4 natural results of walking in the spirit and knowing we have Christ in us

1st natural result of having Christ in you is the ability to please God in our bodies (Vs 1-11)

Read Vs 1

- 1. Being "in Christ" sets us free from wrath to come
- 2. God doesn't condemn Jesus or those that are found "in" Him.
 - a. Read John 3:17-19

Read Vs 2

- 1. What are these laws?
 - a. Law of spirit of life that Jesus' resurrected life has been offered to me to live therein
 - b. Law of sin & death that by myself I'm held under the standard of perfect to be right
- 2. The Law of the spirit didn't get rid of the law of sin, it simply overrides it.
 - a. Just as the Law of Thermodynamics overrides the Law of Gravity
 - b. Jesus didn't come to destroy to Law but to fulfill it.

Read Vs 3-4

- 1. We have freedom to have a new life walking in the spirit b/c of the righteousness of the Law in us.
 - a. But we didn't earn it. It was vicariously given to us by Christ's work of completing the Law
- 2. What's it take to overcome the flesh...just walk in the spirit, live an open ear & heart to God
 - a. Read Gal 5:16-17 Don't have to fight the darkness, just turn on the light

Read Vs 5-8

- 1. The Christian has a choice every moment
 - a. Live for the flesh & think about those things
 - b. Live for the spirit & think about those things
- 2. The flesh brings death & the spirit brings life & peace
- 3. Thinking like Jesus is the only way to please God
 - a. Matt 3:17 "in whom I'm well pleased"

Read Vs 9

- 1. You're not in the flesh once you're saved, so don't walk in the flesh
- 2. We have been given life from His Spirit, now act it out in everyday life (Read Gal 5:25)

Read Vs 10-11

- 1. The new spirit in you can now work thru your body.
- 2. Read Rom 6:13
- 3. There's a new power from God within you that wants to take control of your body & please God

2nd natural result of having Christ in you is adoption into the family of God (Vs 12-18)

Read Vs 12-14

- 1. We 1st went from servants to friends (John 15:15)
- 2. Now we're in debt to God even more b/c he's made us His own children!
- 3. Obeying the Spirit is proof you're child of God

Read Vs 15-16

- 1. Read Gal 4:4-7
- 2. We haven't been born into slavery
- 3. We've been born into a loving family thru adoption!
- 4. Vs 15 says the spirit of bondage leads to fear.
 - a. The spirit of adoption leads to peace & rest!
 - b. The spirit of adoption is belonging & purpose and hope!

Read Vs 17-18

- 1. We receive the full inheritance of God Almighty!
- 2. As we identify w/ Christ, we'll suffer as He suffered...here
 - a. This is temporary
 - b. As we grow in Christ, God will be more pleased and the world will grow more distance!
- 3. But that also means, we'll be glorified as He is glorified...there
 - a. This is permanent and glorious!

3rd natural result of having Christ in you is seeing the future redemption of all things (Vs 19-30)

Read Vs 19-22

- 1. Even the creation is longing for the redemption of mankind for its deliverance from this futile life.
- 2. Read Luk 19:40 "...stones would cry out"
- 3. Vs 19 "...the creature awaits"
 - a. Even the earth knows God has always had a plan to redeem people
- 4. Vs 21 creation "shall be delivered from bondage"
 - a. Plant kingdom, animal kingdom, planets and all will be set a right into their own liberty.
- 5. Vs 22 "creation...travaileth in pain"
 - a. Not to bring forth death
 - b. But to bring forth new life in birth
- 6. So the longing for complete redemption of mankind is what the whole of creation is awaiting
- 7. The redeemed of the Lord shall see it

Read Vs 23-25

- 1. We've been redeemed in spirit.
- 2. We're being redeemed in mind day by day
- 3. We wait w/ a sure hope that even our bodies will be redeemed
- 4. We have the firstfruits of this eternal life by a new spirit within us
 - a. But harvest of the complete new spiritual life is yet to come, including a new body
- 5. Turn to I Cor 15:35-38 New body like Jesus'
 - a. Turn to II Cor 5:1-8
 - b. John 14:2 mansion or tabernacle or body

Read Vs 26-27

- 1. Meanwhile God is working His plan in us
- 2. The Spirit of God is helping us even now overcome the weakness of our body
- 3. If you seem lost & need to connect w/ God, stop using your body & pray letting the Spirit lead

Read Vs 28-30

- 1. God is working all things together to benefit us from salvation, thru sanctification until glorification!
- 2. God is orchestrating our life to become like Christ Jesus
- 3. As Jesus was the firstborn from the dead, this whole experience here on earth is to prepare us to join in behind him, as the harvest of resurrected people

4th natural result of having Christ in you is the security of knowing your destiny (Vs 31-39)

Read Vs 31-32

- 1. If God was willing to give His Son to this wretched earth for our redemption, then we can know He won't hold back the rest (which is easier for Him to give)
- 2. Giving Christ to us was the "hard part"
- 3. We've been permanently given all things

Read Vs 33-34

- 1. Once the "Supreme Court" says you're not guilty, you're off the hook.
- 2. Jesus lives always to continually plead for us
- 3. Satan is the accuser of the brethren, but his day is coming
 - a. Read Rev 12:10
 - b. When Satan reminds you of your past, just remind him of his future!

Read Vs 35-39

- 1. Trials come and are very real, but have <u>no power</u> to change our destiny b/c of Christ's work!
- 2. Our future is secure
 - a. Not b/c we earned it & maintain it
 - b. But b/c God loves us, indwells us & will never let go!
- 3. Turn to Col 1:25-27 This is the way to eternal life, Christ in you!
- 4. Nothing can prevent what God has done to secure our destiny

Conclusion

So Christ in us, gives us the power to walk with God. Here are some of the benefits of a life lived in Christ:

1. We now have the ability to please God even in our bodies

- a. What's it takes to please God? Just live by the spirit's impulses and drives
- b. God is pleased when Jesus comes out of us

2. We are now adopted into the family of God

- a. We aren't slaves, we aren't just friends.
- b. We aren't even children by accident
- c. We're children by God's choice of adoption

3. We will see the future redemption of all things

a. We've only experienced the Firstfruits of our redemption, the full harvest is coming!

4. We have the security of knowing our destiny

- a. The highest judge can declare you innocent!
- b. When He does; nothing can stop you!