

A LIFE-GIVING BOSS
Romans 8:1-11 CSB

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus, ²because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³For what the law could not do since it was weakened by the flesh, God did. He condemned sin in the flesh by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh as a sin offering, ⁴in order that the law's requirement would be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit have their minds set on the things of the Spirit. ⁶Now the mindset of the flesh is death, but the mindset of the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷The mindset of the flesh is hostile to God because it does not submit to God's law. Indeed, it is unable to do so. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹You, however, are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to him. ¹⁰Now if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. ¹¹And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, then he who raised Christ from the dead will also bring your mortal bodies to life through his Spirit who lives in you.

Romans 8:1-11 (CSB)

1. WE are bad bosses.

For those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on the things of the flesh...

Romans 8:5a (CSB)

Now the mindset of the flesh is death...

Romans 8:6a (CSB)

The mindset of the flesh is hostile to God because it does not submit to God's law.

Romans 8:7 (CSB)

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Romans 8:8 (CSB)

2. RELIGION is a bad boss.

For what the law could not do since it was weakened by the flesh, God did. He condemned sin in the flesh by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh as a sin offering, in order that the law's requirement would be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:3-4 (CSB)

All of us have become like something unclean, and all our righteous acts are like a polluted garment; all of us wither like a leaf, and our iniquities carry us away like the wind.

Isaiah 64:6 (CSB)

For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold as a slave under sin. ¹⁵For I do not understand what I am doing, because I do not practice what I want to do, but I do what I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want to do, I agree with the law that it is good. ¹⁷So now I am no longer the one doing it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do what is good is with me, but there is no ability to do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good that I want to do, but I practice the evil that I do not want to do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, I am no longer the one that does it, but it is the sin that lives in me. ²¹So I discover this law: When I want to do what is good, evil is present with me. ²²For in my inner self I delight in God's law, ²³but I see a different law in the parts of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and taking me prisoner to the law of sin in the parts of my body. ²⁴What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I myself am serving the law of God, but with my flesh, the law of sin.

Romans 7:14-25 (CSB)

3. JESUS is a great boss.

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus, ²because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:1-2 (CSB)

You, however, are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to him. ¹⁰Now if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. ¹¹And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, then he who raised Christ from the dead will also bring your mortal bodies to life through his Spirit who lives in you.

Romans 8:9-11 (CSB)

1. Sets Clear Expectations

Would the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams or with ten thousand streams of oil? Should I give my firstborn for my transgression, the offspring of my body for my own sin? ⁸Mankind, he has told each of you what is good and what it is the LORD requires of you: to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:7-8 (CSB)

2. Coaches

"I have spoken these things to you while I remain with you. ²⁶But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you."

John 14:25-26 (CSB)

3. Gives Feedback

Endure suffering as discipline: God is dealing with you as sons. For what son is there that a father does not discipline? ⁸But if you are without discipline—which all receive—then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

Hebrews 12:7-8 (CSB)

In the same way the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with inexpressible groanings.

Romans 8:26 (CSB)

4. Recognizes Efforts

For God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you demonstrated for his name by serving the saints—and by continuing to serve them. ¹¹Now we desire each of you to demonstrate the same diligence for the full assurance of your hope until the end, ¹²so that you won't become lazy but will be imitators of those who inherit the promises through faith and perseverance.

Hebrews 6:10-12 (CSB)

5. Inclusive

After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb! ¹¹All the angels stood around the throne, and along with the elders and the four living creatures they fell facedown before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen. ¹³Then one of the elders asked me, "Who are these people in white robes, and where did they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." Then he told me: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. The one seated on the throne will shelter them: ¹⁶They will no longer hunger; they will no longer thirst; the sun will no longer strike them, nor will any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them; he will guide them to springs of the waters of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Revelation 7:9-17 (CSB)

6. Gets to Know Employees

Your eyes saw me when I was formless; all my days were written in your book and planned before a single one of them began.

Psalms 139:16 (CSB)

7. Finds Each Person's Unique Talents

For just as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of that body, though many, are one body—so also is Christ. ¹³For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and we were all given one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴Indeed, the body is not one part but many.

8. Works Fearlessly

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgment.

2 Timothy 1:7 (CSB)

9. Open and Truthful

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed his glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14 (CSB)

10. Is Made, Not Necessarily Born

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens—Jesus the Son of God—let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16 (CSB)

“Don’t think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or one stroke of a letter will pass away from the law until all things are accomplished.

¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever does and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:17-20 (CSB)

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus, ²because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:1-2 (CSB)