

Romans 8 Part 3

Being God's Child

Heirs with Christ

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Rom 8:12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

Rom 8:13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

- Faith without works is dead.
 - **James 2:17** Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.
 - 18** Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.
 - 19** Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.
 - 20** But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?
- That's what the Word of God tells us in James.
 - So, if faith without works is dead,
 - then I only have faith if it **moves me**.
 - What I believe is evident by what I do.
- God is the Father of all who believe in Jesus Christ.
 - That is Bible. It is fact.
 - So, if I believe in Jesus Christ,
 - then my belief will cause me to be led by the Spirit of God,
 - not my flesh.
 - When I follow my flesh,
 - I am claiming my life.
 - When I claim my life, my faith is dead.
 - When I follow the Spirit, I mortify (kill) the deeds of the flesh and make my faith to be what is alive.

Rom 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

- Sin is bondage
 - I used to fear the bondage
 - I used that fear to try hard not to give into sin
 - This is not the right motivation
 - This does not bring forth the right fruit
- I am God's Child
 - I've been adopted by God
 - He is my Father
 - He loves His children
 - I can go to Him, knowing He loves
 - His love replaces my fear
 - **1 John 4:18** *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.*

Rom 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

Rom 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together.

- Before September 24, 1998, I thought I knew.
 - I thought I was a child of God.
 - The problem was there was no evidence to support that idea.
 - God's Spirit was nowhere near me, let alone in me.
 - Therefore, there was no fruit showing the evidence of His presence in my life.
 - There was no desire to follow Him.

- There was no desire to cut off my flesh so that I might suffer in this present time as I yield to the Spirit's leading.
- Then came my salvation experience!
 - Now the Spirit of God dwells in me!
 - How do I know?
 - There is evidence!
 - I yearn to please God because He has saved me!
 - A part of me is grieved when I give into sin
 - I want to show people what God has done in my life
 - I want God to see how I feel about Him
 - I want others to see how I feel about God
 - When you know, you know!
- So, do you know?
 - Are you a Child of God
 - Have you been adopted into God's Family?
- What about this "suffer with Him" stuff? What does that mean
 - That is what we are doing when we die to self and sin and remain buried like we talked about in chapters 6 & 7
 - It is hard to "mortify the deeds of the flesh"
 - It is difficult to leave all we know to step into the unknown
 - But we MUST understand that Jesus told us that if we lived for Him it would be difficult
 - **John 16:33** These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.
 - In the World...our flesh there will be suffering

- In Christ...our spirit there will be love, joy, peace...victory!
- Oh, then there is the promise of Heaven
- So, again I ask, Do you know?
- Is Jesus your Savior?
- Does His Spirit minister to yours?