

Joint Heirs
Fred Chay

Victory is Ours! Romans 8:1-13

Introduction-

Paul has taught us that we have a “New House” in Christ. (5:12-6:24) However, we still live in a “Death House” the body. (Ch 7) Paul exclaims- “Who will set me free from this body of death?” To answer this cry, Paul points us to the “Powerhouse”- the Holy Spirit. (Ch 8)

I. The Requirement for Victory 8:1

A. The Contextual Issue (Rom 5-7)

1. New House Freedom In Christ (Rom 5-6)

No longer in Adam but in Christ. 5:12ff Old man is dead 6:6

2. Death House Slavery to the Flesh (Rom 7)

The Role of the law is unhelpful 7:1-6

The Reality of the fight in the Christian life 7:15-23, Gal 5:16ff

The Result of the flesh is devastating 7:24-25

B. The Textual Issue (Rom 8:1) (95% of Greek mss contain the longer version)

^{DRA} **Romans 8:1** There is now therefore no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, who walk not according to the flesh.

^{GNV} **Romans 8:1** Now then there is no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, which walke not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

^{NAS} **Romans 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

^{NET} **Romans 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

^{NKJ} **Romans 8:1** *There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. (Also the KJV)

^{YLT} **Romans 8:1** There is, then, now no condemnation to those in Christ Jesus, who walk not according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit;

^{BGT} **Romans 8:1** Οὐδὲν ἄρα νῦν κατάκριμα τοῖς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ.

^{BYZ} **Romans 8:1** Οὐδὲν ἄρα νῦν κατάκριμα τοῖς ἐν χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ, μὴ κατὰ σάρκα περιπατοῦσιν, ἀλλὰ κατὰ πνεῦμα. (98% NT GK Mss have this reading)

C. The Lexical Issue 8:1

The only means for the Christian to be delivered from the manipulation of sin, manifested in the flesh, which is servitude to sin is by submission to the internal power of the Spirit not by the attempt to keep the external law. (2 Cor. 3:7)

Condemnation in the Christian life is overcome by walking in Spirit not the flesh

The term for the translation of the NAS “Condemnation” is Katakrima

It includes the declared judgment of Guilt and the penalty that is inflicted.

The topic under consideration in ch 6-8 is sanctification and therefore what Paul has in mind is that when we walk in the power of the Spirit we do not suffer the condemnation (Penal Servitude) that comes from a Christian living in sin- sin can kill you James 1:15

This is the tension Paul has been talking about 7:9-10, 24,

Also 6:6 Slaves, :14 Master, Slaves 16-22 motif.

Ch 2-4 How to be delivered from penalty of sin (Condemnation)-Justification

Ch 6-8 How to be delivered from power of sin (Penal servitude)- Sanctification

When we walk in the Power of the Spirit we can overcome sin and the results of condemnation and the servitude it brings into the life of a believer.

But this is not automatic? It is potential.

II The Reason of Victory 8:2-11

A. The Provision for the Victory- (Christ 8:3-4)

The Law could not deal with the guilt of sin or the power of the flesh. 7:7-25

God sent His son in the likeness of sinful flesh to deal with the problem

Walking **according** to the Spirit of Christ gives us life to win the victory

(This is similar to Gal 5:16 walking according to the Spirit or the flesh)

B. The Power for Victory (The Spirit 8:5-9)

Notice the difference between the use of “According” (Kata) and “In: (En)

“According to”—a Christian living under either Spirit or flesh

“Being In “ – A non Christian

All Christians are in Christ but not all Christians walk **according** to the Spirit

C. The Product of Victory 8:10-11

1. The FACT :10

Even as a Christian your body is under the death sentence 7:24

But the Christians Spirit is alive being raised with Jesus 5:12, 6:3-4ff

2. The ACT :11

The Law cannot deal with the sinful body. (ch 7:23-24)

The Spirit is the only person and power that can combat the flesh.

The “mortal body” and its sinful desires right now can be controlled.

Paul has exhorted us to live this way 6:12-14 and now tells us how to do it- ch 8

III. The Results of Victory 8:12-13

A. Death

Christians who give into the flesh will experience a sense of death in their walk with the Lord. Paul experienced this 7:9,11 The result is the wretched man 7:25 that is enslaved in servitude to sin. But Paul tells us that we are no longer slaves of sin 6:11,18. We are in fact to stop giving in to sin in our mortal bodies 6:12.

But: How do I do that? Not by the law but by the Spirit.

B. Life

This is the same Spirit that gave life to Jesus by the resurrection and who can and will give life to us. 6:6-10. This is resurrection life Today!

This what Paul desired in his life ekanastasis “Out Resurrection” Philippians 3:5

(This is manifested by fruit of Spirit Gal 5, Being filled with the Spirit Eph. 5:18, Walking in the Light Eph. 4-5, Enjoying Fellowship and Abiding in Christ John 15, I John 1-2, Being Holy I Peter 1:15, and “put on the LJC and make no provision for the flesh in regards to its lust.” Rom 13:14)

We can live the resurrection life right now. This is not about the future resurrection but life today-right NOW. We live in this power by the risen life of Christ through His Spirit controlling us moment by moment. (See Romans 5:9-10, Gal. 5:16)

So what now?

Divide your day into three sections. Morning, afternoon and evening.

At the end of each section ask- Did I walk according to the Spirit?

How was it manifested in me and through me to me and to others?

What do I need to confess as sin and what happened that almost led me to sin?

(Think in terms of relationships- To God, Self, Spouse, family, work, church people, neighbors, strangers...)

How will I walk according to the Spirit? How will I be Spiritually Oriented?

This will take a Mindset, a Method and a Motive!