



THE FLESH VS. THE SPIRIT

- 5 For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.
- 6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,

Romans 8:5-6

Q: Chapter 5 marks the transition between:

A: Positional Righteousness

Experiential Righteousness



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How does the
Christian life
work?



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“...so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Romans 5:21



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Q:

What is grace?

A:



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Q: What is grace?

A: Grace is a

GIFT!



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Q:

What specifically has God done?

A:



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Q: What specifically has God done?

A: God identified us with Christ Jesus in His death and resurrection!



“The Lord Jesus took this way and set baptism right at the beginning of his public life, and under the anointing of the Spirit, from that moment He absolutely refused to listen to His own mind apart from God, to be in any way influenced by anything arising from the dictates of his own humanity, sinless as it was, apart from God.

“All the way along He was being governed by the Anointing; in what He said, what He did, what He refused to do; where He went, and when He went; and was putting back every other influence, whether coming from the disciples, or from the Devil, or from any other direction. His attitude was, Father, what do You think about this: what do You want: is this Your time?

“He was saying, in effect, all the time, Not My will, but Yours; Not my judgements, but Yours; not My feelings, what what You feel about it! He had died, in effect, you see; He had been buried, in effect. His baptism had meant that for Him, and **that is where we stand.**”

***excerpt from book “The School of Christ”*

T. Austin Sparks

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» In chapter 5, Paul transitioned from talking about being born again by grace through faith to talking about the Christian life which is *also* by grace through faith.



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- » To live under grace does not mean that God is turning a blind eye to sin.
 - » It means that He has provided **everything** necessary for a godly life freely by grace.



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► We need to be **specific** about what God has done to provide it!

Our identification with Christ makes us participants in His death and resurrection.

Our death with Christ frees us from the power of the sin nature.

Our resurrection with Christ means that Christ is now our life.



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► Our responsibility in the Christian life is **always** a responsibility of faith.



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Q:

**What is commanded
in Romans 8?**

A:



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Q: What is commanded in Romans 8?

A: There isn't a single imperative command in the whole chapter.



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Romans 8:5-6

Q:

What are the facts in verses 5 and 6?

A:



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Q: What are the facts in verses 5 and 6?

A: Paul is explaining that you're either going to have your thinking dominated by "the things" of the flesh or "the things" of the Spirit.



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➤ The mindset of the flesh and the Spirit lead to two totally **different** outcomes.



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Romans 8:5-6

Q:

Can we be walking by the Spirit and the flesh at the same time?

A:



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Q: Can we be walking by the Spirit and the flesh at the same time?

A: No! It is impossible!



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Q:

Can a Christian even walk according to the flesh?

A:



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Q: **Can a Christian even walk according to the flesh?**

A: **Yes.** We can, and do, walk according to the flesh.

We're judicially free from its power, but we often allow ourselves to be controlled by it!



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“...the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, That shines brighter and brighter until the full day.

Proverbs 4:18”

