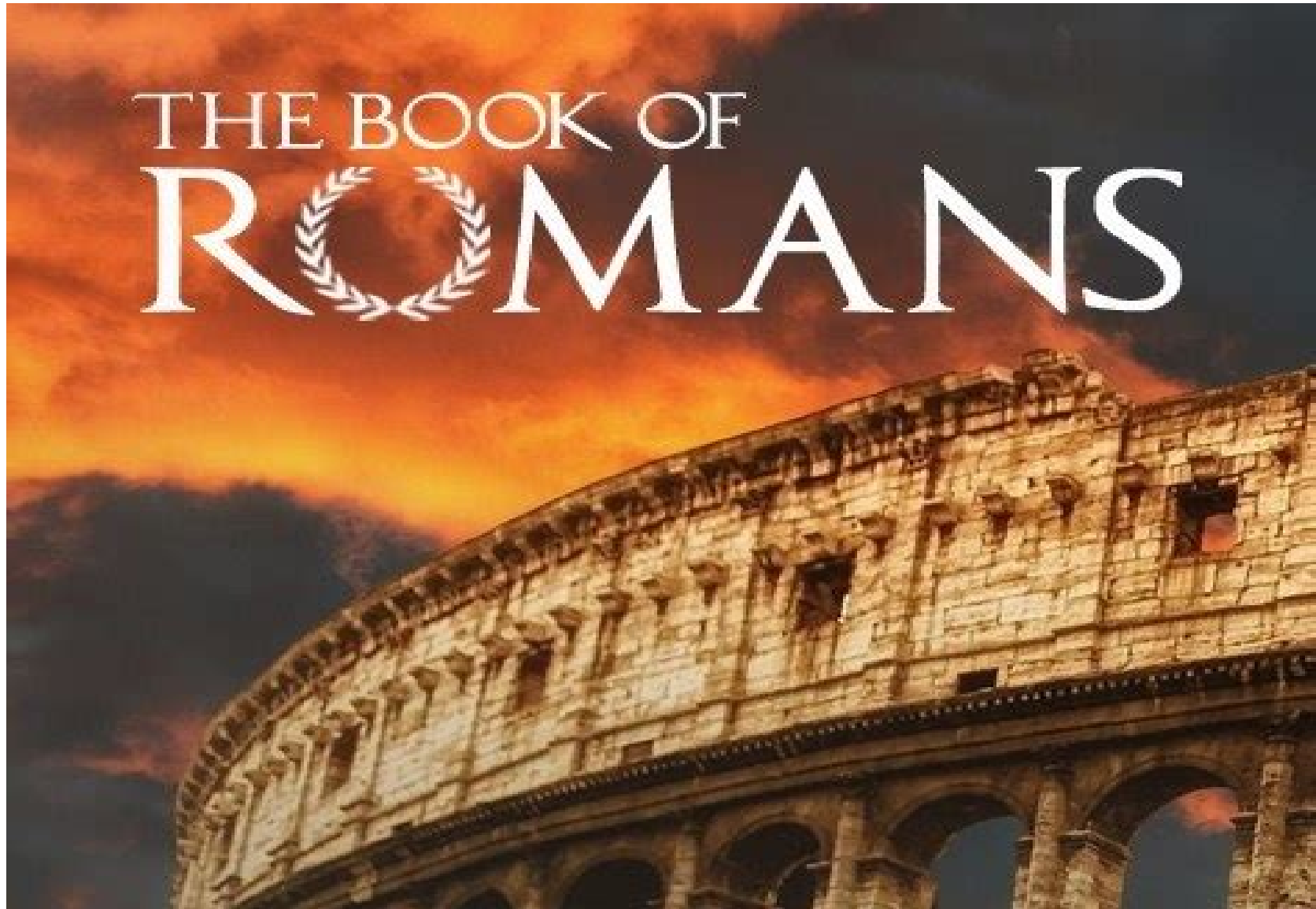
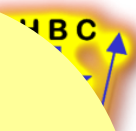


Rom 8:12-13 Danger – Living According to the Flesh!





flesh (*sarx*) has a threefold usage in the NT:*

term **flesh** refers only to the material part of man.

equivalent to its synonym: **body**.

second meaning refers to humanity's relationships and

actions. 1 Peter 1:24a For, All **flesh** is like grass.

third meaning of the word **flesh** is that which is wholly restricted to

the material [spiritual] part of man.

the element in man which is spoken of both the

unregenerate and the regenerate.

is opposed to God and godliness.

can be defined as a fallen nature, a disposition to sin.

to set one's **minds on** – *phroneo* – a verb, which describes

the condition of the mind - to be minded in a certain way

phronēma – a noun, which has to do with

the content of what is in your mind, lit: thought, purpose

Overview of Rom 8:5



For

subject

those who are
[continually exist]
according to
the flesh

verb

“set their
minds on”
[**think about**]
phroneo

direct object

the things
of the flesh

But

subject

those who are
[continually exist]
according to
the Spirit

verb

“set their
minds on”
[**think about**]
phroneo

direct object

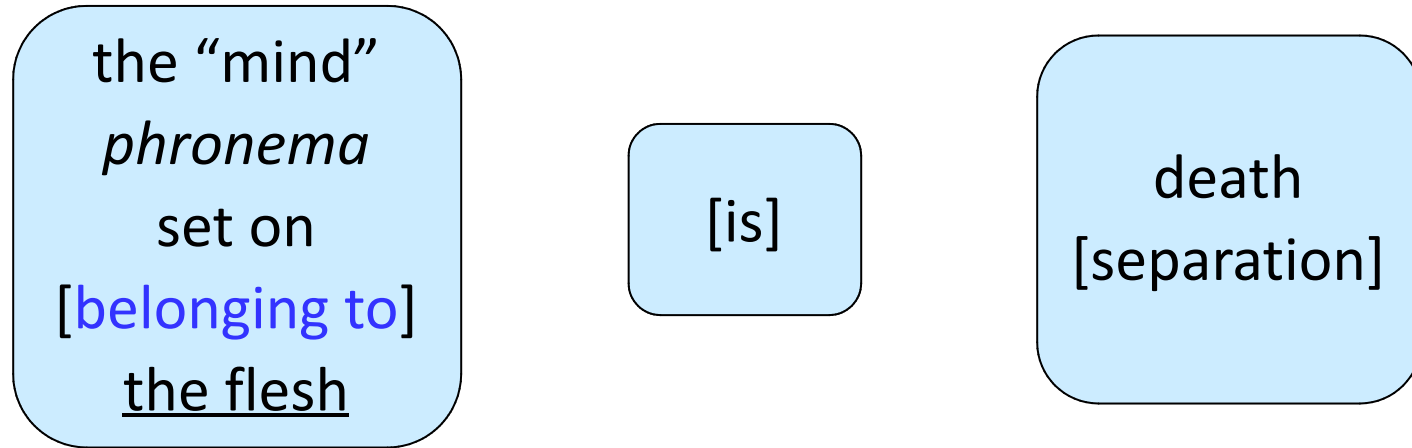
the things
of the Spirit

Overview of Rom 8:6

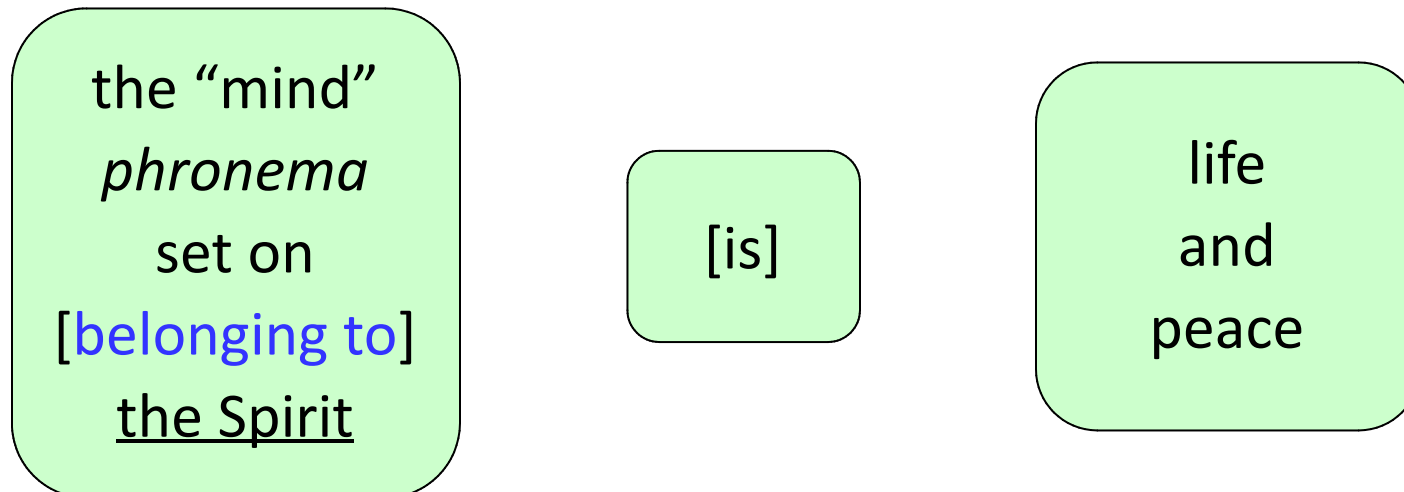


- Now we are given the results of each mind set

For



But

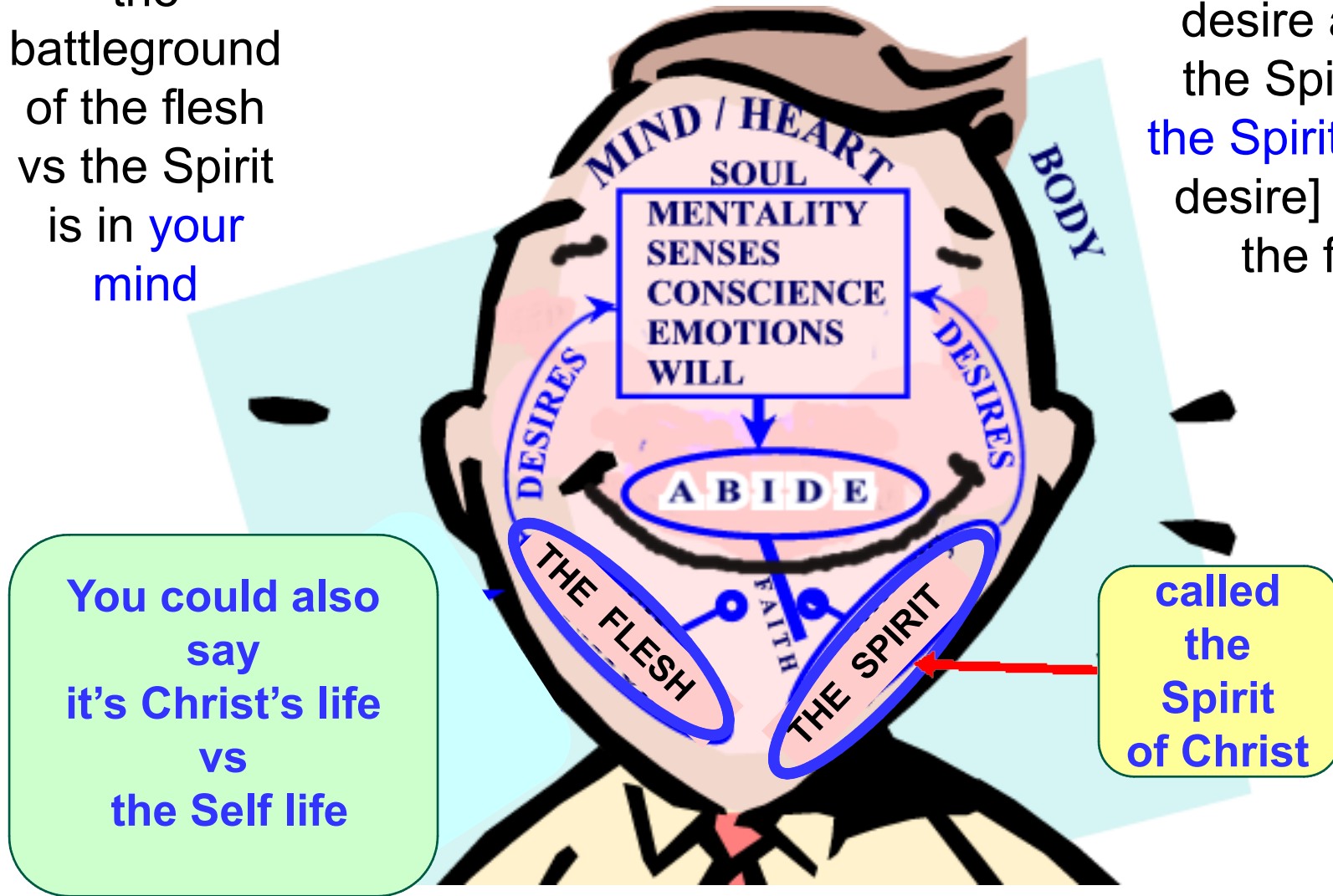


The Flesh vs The Spirit *

from Gal 5:17

the
battleground
of the flesh
vs the Spirit
is in **your**
mind

Gal 5:17a For
the flesh sets its
desire against
the Spirit, and
the Spirit [sets its
desire] against
the flesh



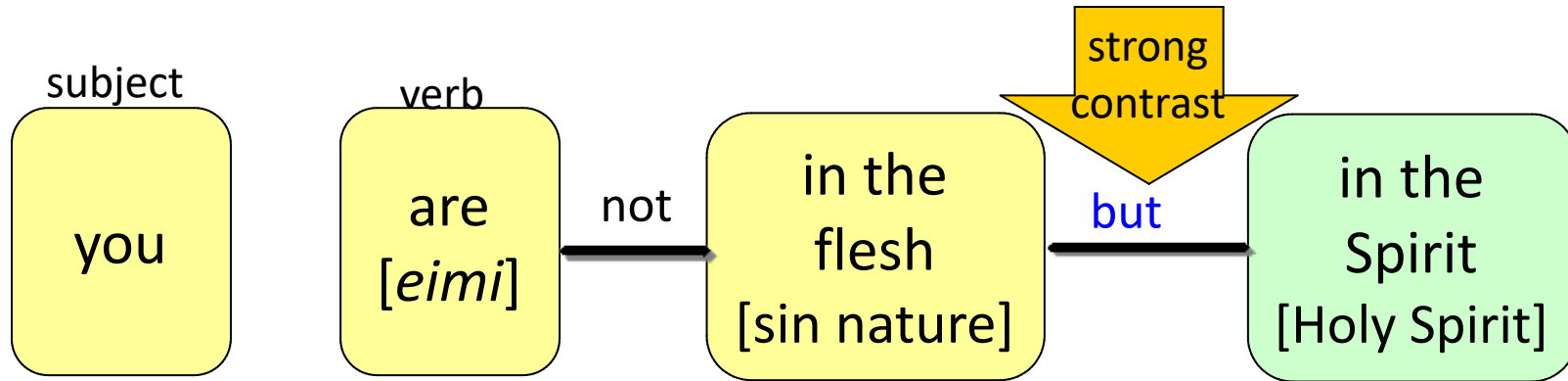
* edited from H. Molloy

⁹ However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.



however - *de* – in contrast to (what Paul said in Rom 7)

- Rom 7:5a For while we were in the flesh (in past time)



- you are not in your sin nature from Adam
- but you are now in this living union with the Holy Spirit
- if indeed [since] the Spirit of God dwells in you
- **dwells** - to inhabit as one's home
- 1 John 4:13 By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because **He has given us of His Spirit.**

⁹ However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.



but – *de* – in the sense added information

if – assumed to be true

anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ

- The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is true of all believers
- So the Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Christ or the Spirit of God in this verse

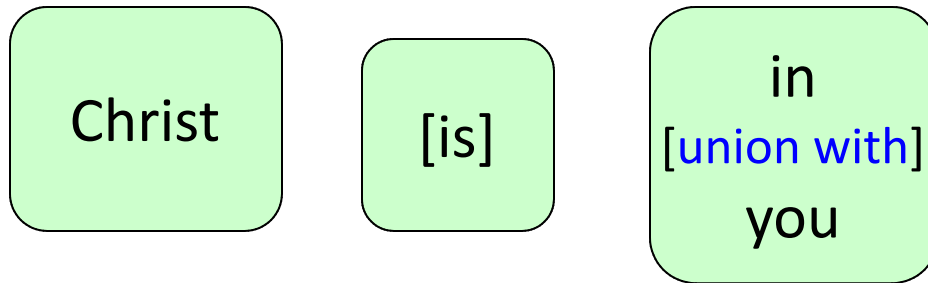
[then] **he does not belong to Him**

- lit: this one **is not** of Him [of God]
- **is not** - this is the negative of verb *eimi* – the state in which someone continually exists
- so you must have the Holy Spirit to be of Him



¹⁰ If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

If – assumed to be true



- This is a statement of fact about every believer
- Gal 2:20a I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but **Christ lives in me**;

on the **one** hand - **the body is dead on account of sin**

- The indwelling sin nature is the reason the body is dead (1 Cor 15:22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.)

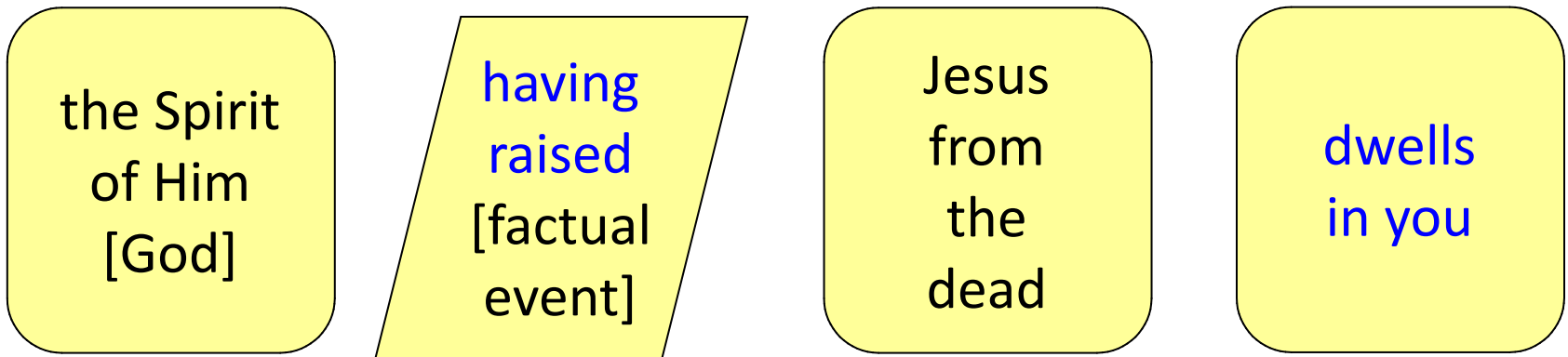
on the **other** hand - **the Spirit life, because of righteousness**

- The Spirit has taken his abode in you
- The Holy Spirit is the source of spiritual life for the redeemed person who possesses Christ's righteousness



¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

but or and – more details of the “indwelling Holy Spirit”
if [assumed to be true]



- Gal 1:1 Paul, an apostle (not sent from men nor through the agency of man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead).
- dwells - to inhabit as one's home – same as verse 9

11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.



He who raised
Christ Jesus
from the dead
[God the Father]

will also
give life

to your
mortal
[subject
to death]
bodies

through
His Spirit
who dwells
in you.

give life - *zōopoieō* - to make alive, cause to live (future)

- The future resurrection of the believer's body is in view here, as the context indicates Wuest
- A reference to the fact that the Spirit will quicken [make alive] that body in resurrection from the dead*
- The presence of the indwelling Spirit guarantees the endurance of the believer * * Chafer

Today's Verses



¹² So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—

¹³ for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

¹² So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—



So then or therefore

brethren - *adelphos* - in the plural, a fellowship of life based on identity of origin - members of the same family

- Paul uses this term when he wants to stress fellowship

we are – *eimi* – the state in which someone or some thing continuously exists (present, indicative, active)

- So Paul includes himself and all believers

under obligation – *opheiletēs* – debtor; one held by some obligation, bound to some duty

- now Paul will state two truths about the believer's flesh [sin nature] and his Christian walk



¹² So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—

1st - [we are under obligation] not to the flesh [sin nature]

- so we are to reckon [consider] ourselves dead [separated] from the sin nature – not debtors! Rom 6:11

2nd - to live according to the flesh

to live - *zao* - to live in any way, to pass one's life in any manner (positively or negatively)

according to – *kata* – according to a norm or standard

to the flesh – by context this is the sin nature

- Since the saint is not within the sphere of evil nature*, and since he is within the sphere of the Holy Spirit, he is under no obligation to the evil nature to live under its dominion.

Wuest

*we have been separated from it

¹³ for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.



for or indeed - connects to **we are** [a believer] in v 12

- now, more information on the believer and the flesh

If – assumed to be true – you are doing this!

you are living - *zao* - to live in any way, to pass one's life
in any manner (present tense – cont. action)

according to - *kata* - according to a norm or standard
of what follows

to the flesh – by context this is the sin nature

you must die – you are destined to die
(present, active – you do it !)

Interlinear

13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.



you are destined-*mellō*- you are going to, used of necessity

- John 11:51b but being high priest that year, he [Caiaphas] prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation.

to die – *apothnēskō* – both spiritual and physical death

temporal spiritual death [separation]:

- This separation is a break in fellowship between the believer and Christ*
- When you are out of fellowship you are in the area of death (or darkness)*
- If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness we lie and do not practice the truth -1 Jn 1:6
- Same believer as in verse 9 who positionally is in Christ*

* edited Merryman

13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.



but – *de* – in contrast to living according to flesh

if – assumed to be true

by the Spirit – the Holy Spirit

you are putting to death – *thanatoō* - mortify (make to die)
(present, indicative, active)

present tenses – the continuous action of a believer

indicative – reality in the believer's life

active – the believer is performing the action of the verb

- you are habitually putting to death Wuest
- next we are told “what he is putting to death”

13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.



[putting to death] **the deeds of the body**

deeds - *praxis* - a deed the action of which is looked upon as incomplete and in progress - an act or practice

- Col 3:9 Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside “the old self” with its **evil practices**.

of the body

- since these deeds are considered evil practices we see a parallel in the following verse:
- Gal 5:19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality.

you will live

- this life is Christ’s life as we are told in Gal 2:20

13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.



- So you could summarize verse 13b from Rom 6:
- Rom 6:6 **knowing this**, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with [taken offline], so that we would no longer be slaves to sin.
- Rom 6:11 Even so **consider [reckon]** yourselves to be dead to [the] sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.
- Chafer says to mortify the “deeds of the body” is the idea to reckon [them] to be dead.

Final Thoughts*



- In Rom. 8:5-13, the fundamental problem of whether the flesh or the Spirit of God shall dominate the believer's life is carried to its logical end.
- Specifically, to live according to the flesh is to be in the way of death,
- And to live according to the Spirit is to be in the way of life with its victory over the flesh.
- It is not asserted that Christians are in danger of spiritual death,
- But it is nevertheless true that they may live in the realms in which those who are spiritually dead live [an unbeliever].
- They may indulge in the "deeds of the body." * Chafer