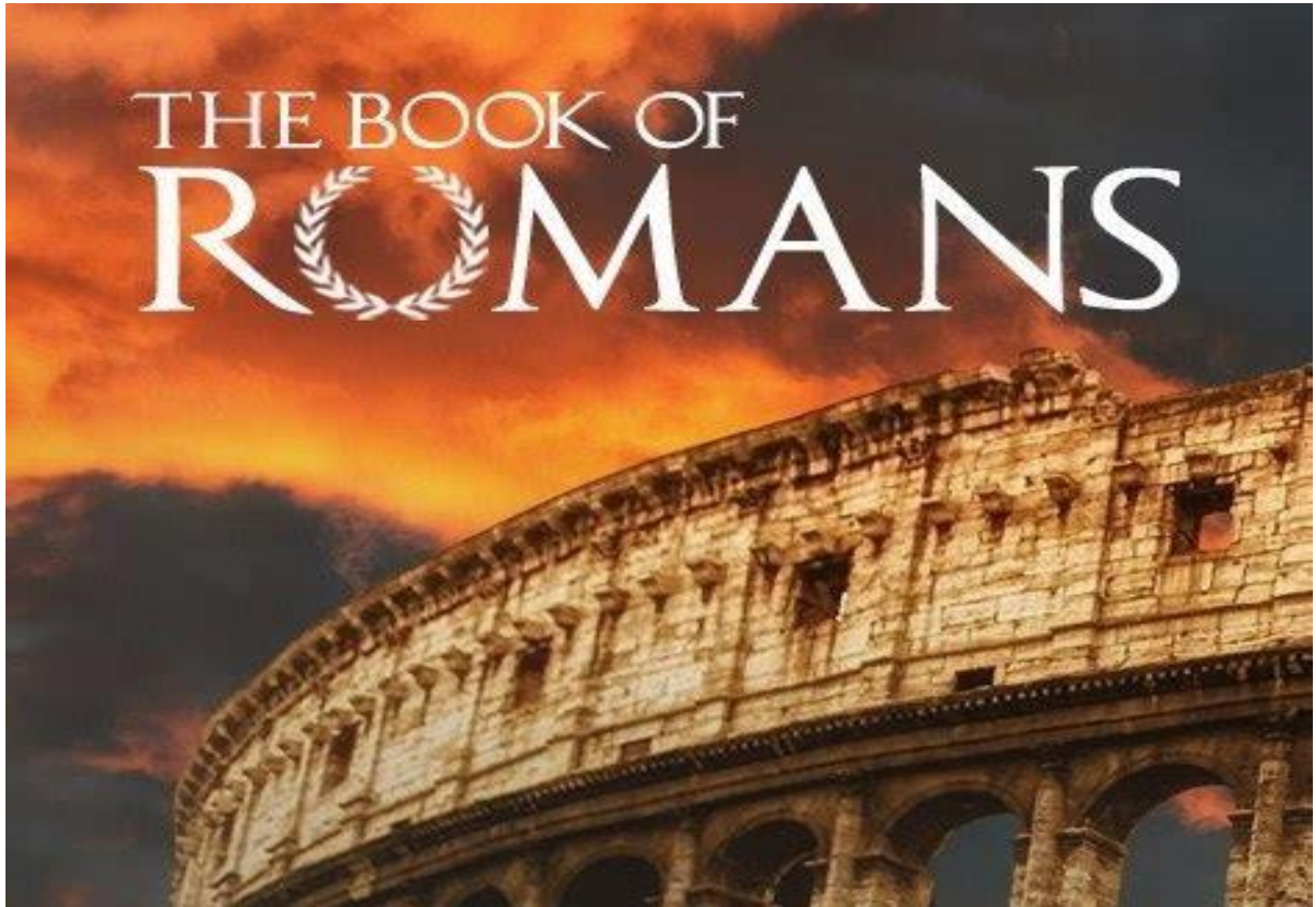


Rom 8:1-2 No Condemnation for Those Who Are in Christ Jesus



Outline Romans Chp. 8*



- The believer's liberation (freedom) v:1-11
 - key words: **has set you free** v:12
- The believer's obligation v:12-17
 - key words: **we are under obligation** v:12
- The believer's glorification v:18-25
 - key words: **the glory to be revealed to us** v:18
- The believer's provision v:26-30
 - key words: **the Spirit helps our weakness** v:26
- The believer's protection v:31-39
 - key words: **if God is for us who can be against us** v:31

* McCalley

Preliminary thoughts on Chp 8



Some people have said:

- We enter this chapter with no condemnation
- We close it with no separation from the love of God
- And in between - God works all things together for the good to those that love God and are called according to His purpose

More thoughts:*

- In Chp. 8 Paul will show that the dynamic for living the Christian life and performing divine good
- It is the result of the work of the indwelling Holy Spirit through the Spirit-controlled believer
- Paul will now set forth the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit as opposed to lack of power from any law system

* Molloy₃

Today's Verses



¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. NASB



There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. KJV

- The words "who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit," are rejected by both Nestle and Westcott/Hort [Greek text]. Wuest
- It only occurs in the Textus Receptus Merryman
- This last part of verse 1 seems to come from verse 4b
 - v:4 so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, **who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit**
- Maybe verse 1 was so gracious that the transcribers had to add a human condition!

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.



There is now then

Interlinear

then – *ara* – then or consequently; transition by logical inference

Merryman

- marking a transition to what naturally follows from the words preceding
- so can we identify this transition from the last verses of Chp. 7 to the first verses of Chp. 8?
- The same man [positionally] is in view in Chp. 7 and Chp. 8
- Paul's position is a new creation in Christ that can never change
- But in Chp. 7 Paul says his condition is that:
I am carnal – permanently sold into bondage to sin

Zodhiates

Merryman

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.



- The climax of Paul's struggles is when he says in verse 24 "**Wretched man that I am!**"
- Next he calls out to God and says "**Who will set me free from the body of this death?**"
- Then he says "**Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!**"
- This appears to be the moment that he realizes who could set him free
- The "**So then**" in v:25 describes his conflicted state
 - on the one hand **I myself with my mind am serving the law [will] of God,**
 - but on the other, **with my flesh the law of sin**
- Then in 8:1 he realizes his position in Christ!

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.



no - *ouden* - not even one, not the least [bit]

- “**no**” is the first word in the Greek text – emphatic NO!
- **condemnation** - *katákrima* - a decision against someone, a condemnatory judgment.

Rom 5:18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.

- Paul is now declaring there is no [not even one bit] condemnation
- It's based on the one act of righteousness [of Jesus Christ]

John 5:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.



This declaration of no condemnation is restricted to:

those who are in Christ Jesus

those – lit: to the ones

What does “in Christ Jesus” mean?

- “in Christ Jesus” describes our living union which we received the moment we put our faith in the person and work of Christ
- The following is a key verse that describes the details of this union:
- Romans 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.



more on “baptized into Christ Jesus”

baptized – *baptizō* (aorist, indicative, passive)

- derived from the word *bapto*
- the idea is “to dip and take out”
- But *baptizo* describes an event that happened to every believer by the power of the Holy Spirit
- We have been baptized into Christ and never taken out*
- Every single believer was immersed into Christ Jesus
- This is a permanent relationship that God has established
- We were immersed into Christ and became identified with Him (we in Him and He in us)*
- We can never be separated from Him

* Molloy

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.



baptism into Jesus Christ (cont.)

^{6:3} Do you not know that all we who were placed in Christ Jesus, in His death were placed? Wuest

- Baptism can be thought of as a placing of a person into a new union with someone else [Christ Jesus] so as to alter the believer's relationship to his previous union [Adam]*
- New Union: At the moment of belief in Jesus Christ the saved person is placed into a vital living union with Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit*
- Previous Union: The believer is now dead [separated] from his sin nature. The believer no longer has to be a slave to that sin nature*

* Wuest via Molloy edited

² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.



for - *gar* - indeed

the law [principle] of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus

- This is in contrast to “the law [principle] of the sinful nature which is in my members” Rom 7:23
- This principle is related to the Spirit of life [Holy Spirit]
- We are told in John 6:63 It is the Spirit who gives life
- Rom 8:11b He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.
- This life is in Christ Jesus
- Next we have what was accomplished by the Holy Spirit
- This will be the answer to Paul’s question [Who will set me free?] in Rom 7:24

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.



has set you free – *eleuthero* - to make free, liberate from
(aorist, indicative, active)

- This is an event that happened in every believer's life and it is a reality
- It happened the moment you believed
- The Holy Spirit is the one who performed the action in you
- But you may not understand it until you have a struggle with your sin nature like Paul
- You were set free as following:
 - Free from the principle of [the] sin [nature]
 - Free from the principle of [the] death

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.



free from the law of sin

- the law of the sin nature - described as follows in Chp. 7
- v:21a I find then the [law] principle that evil [the sin nature] is present in me
- v:23 a different law [law of the sin nature] in the members of my body, waging war
- v:23b making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.
- v:25c [I myself, servicing] with my flesh the law of sin

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.



free from the law of sin (cont.)*

- But now the Holy Spirit has changed our relationship to the law of the sin nature
- The Holy Spirit both gives and sustains the believer's life
- Now you have the Spirit who gave the law taking up residence in the believer's life
- Zech 7:12a They made their hearts like flint so that they could not hear the law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets.
- We now have a law [Spirit of life in Christ Jesus] that is superior and stronger than the law of the sin nature
- This new law frees the believer from having to follow the desires of the sin nature

* edited Merryman

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.



free from the law of death [spiritual]

- All men are born spiritual dead
- Rom 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned [in Adam].
- Also Christ spoke of men as being dead
- Matt 8:22 But Jesus said to him, "Follow Me, and allow the dead to bury their own dead."
- But the Holy Spirit has set us free to be alive to God
- Rom 8:11b He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Final Thoughts*



- The answer to the cry of distress is given in Rom. 8:2.
- This is more than a deliverance from the Law of Moses: it is the immediate deliverance from sin and death.
- The helpless and defeated "I" is in evidence in the one case, and the sufficient and victorious "I" by the Spirit, is in evidence in the other.
- The Christian is to be delivered by the "law [or power] of the Spirit."
- The Christian is delivered by the Spirit, but the deliverance is made righteously possible through Jesus Christ our Lord, because of the believer's union with Him.
- Similarly, two natures were still in evidence in the Apostle Paul's experience since with the mind he desired to serve the law of God, but with the flesh he desired to serve the law of sin (Rom. 7:25).
- He did not remain a defeated Christian, for he found the faith principle of life, and this he states in Romans 8:4.

* Chafer