

Title: ~~led~~ <sup>led</sup> By The Spirit of God

Text: Romans 8: ~~1-14~~ <sup>1-14</sup>

, Take your Bibles, please, and open them to Romans chapter 8. Romans chapter 8 is certainly the high point of the entire book. We are studying the principles of God's righteousness. We have looked at the matter of CONDEMNATION. That all people are condemned whether they are religious or non religious.

We have looked at the matter of JUSTIFICATION. This is the act of God whereby He pronounces us righteous. Not because of how we perform, or what we have done in the past, but because we have believed in Jesus Christ.

We <sup>have</sup> looked at the principle of SANTIFICATION. The word "santification" means "to set apart". And <sup>Santification</sup> ~~the principle~~ is the act of God whereby He is making us different.

Now, one doesn't often understand ~~that~~ that about himself. In fact, many new believers in Christ observe that their old friends don't ~~really~~ really think so much of them anymore. Maybe you didn't set out to be different, but it just happens that way because God is doing it. And as you grow in the Lord, you will increaseing discovery that you are being made more different all the time. Different than you ever were before. *you become a Christian*

Now, along the road of ~~the being made different~~ ~~and this~~ santification, there is a great amount of frustration in the christian life. Because, you see, the Bible teaches that there is a conflict going on all the time. A war, a struggle, a fight between your old <sup>nir</sup> nature, which was characteristic of the ~~one~~ who is an unbeliever, and your new nature in the Lord. When you become a christian you have the fruit of the Holy Spirit living within you. And thus there is a tremendous conflict. And we learned that the things that we want to do, we don't do; and the things that you don't want to do, you do. And that is very frustrating. And you feel much like Paul ~~and~~ when in cried out ~~in Chapter 7~~, "Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

~~Now, what is the answer to this conflict? The answer is chapter 8. It is the law of the spirit of light.~~

And he gave us four laws. With the law of the mind I serve the law of God. With the law of the flesh, I serve the law of sin.

Well, what is the answer to this conflict? The answer is chapter 8. And that is the Law of the Spirit of life.

(40) Now, chapter 8 introduces the fourth principle of God's righteousness.

And that is, the principle of <sup>Eternal</sup> security. Because with all this conflict going on, one thing usually happens. And that is, the christian begins doubting and asking questions as to whether or not he is really a ~~believer~~ <sup>saved</sup>.

He sees himself doing things that people who are non-believers are going. So, there is great confusion in his mind. And Romans 8 comes forth with tremendous principles of security. It is wonderful to be security, isn't it? <sup>So that is what we are going to look at in chapter 8. The principle</sup>

(1C) And the first thing we are going to look at in the first 17 verses, is that security is given to us by the presence of the Holy Spirit. The doctrine or the teaching of the Holy Spirit is one of the most fundamental things that you can learn as a believer. It is ignored in many circles. But it is fundamental to your christian life and effectiveness <sup>as a christian</sup>.

Now, right away, before we look at the text, I want to say that there are some <sup>Christians</sup> ~~believers~~ who believe that when you become a christian, you don't have the Holy Spirit. That the Holy Spirit is given to you later on in your life.

Let me give you an example. In our text, down in Vs 9, it says "However you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you."

Many people reading that think of the little phrases "if so be" as being probability. In other words, "Well, that is true, if the Holy Spirit is in you." Which means that people don't have him.

Well, that is unfortunate that they don't know their text carefully, nor the original language. Because it says "if indeed" and it is true.. "the Spirit of God dwells in you." It is a statement of fact that all believers do have the Holy Spirit in them.

<sup>There</sup> ~~Here~~ is another example <sup>over in</sup> from Acts 19 verse 2 and 3.

~~it~~

For example

~~We have this statement.~~ Paul said to some disciples of John the Baptist, "Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?"

And many people, then, teach, "Well, you see, it happens after you are a christian. Some time after you are saved you will receive the Holy Spirit. Because the verse says "have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?"

And there, again, in another unfortunate argument because the Greek text simply says "Did you receive the Spirit when you believed?" At the moment you believed? So, you see, the moment you believe in Christ you do receive the Holy Spirit.

Now, other people have the idea that ~~it~~ is like a cup. And you are getting your life ~~filled~~ filled up with the H.S., Like when you become a christian you have a little bit in the bottom of the cup. And then later on when you mature in the Lord, God pours in more of the H.S. into your cup. NO, that isn't it either. A lot of people pray to have the H.S. poured on them.

very filled with the H.S.

New Friends The Bible Teach that

You have all of the Holy Spirit that you are ever going to get, ~~if~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~you are a believer.~~ Of course, the real issue is not whether you have him, but whether or not He has you. That is the real issue. It is the issue of control. He is in your life. And the very fact that you have a conflict is evident that he is there. If you are an unbeliever, you don't have that conflict. The only thing you worry about <sup>when you sin</sup> is getting caught...

moment you receive Christ as savior

But when you are a believe, just the very act of sinning is ~~enough~~ enough evidence that you have the Holy Spirit in you because it drives you wild. And if it doesn't drive you wild, you had better check your experience. Examine yourself to see if you are in the faith. Because the Bible teaches that there is that conflict that goes on in the believer. You want to do things that you shouldn't. And you don't want to do those things that you know you should. And you end up frustrated..

Now, that is what we are discussing. Let's read the text. Romans chapter 8 beginning with Vs 1...

(Read Romans ~~8:1-17~~ <sup>8:1-11</sup>)

Prayer

(c) ~~law~~ <sup>law</sup>

So, we are looking ~~at~~ <sup>in</sup> these verses at the matter of our security as given by the presence of the Holy Spirit. And we want to see that in three different areas.

(1) In the first four verses, we are dealing with the matter of the righteousness of the law. The righteousness of the law. ~~So~~, we have security by the presence of the Holy Spirit as to the righteousness of the law.

Now, this is an important matter. Because a lot of people do not have security when they think of the righteousness of the law. You read what the law says: DON'T DO THIS...DO THAT..And you realize that you are not doing it. So, what conclusion do you come to?

Well, I might not be saved for one thing..Maybe I am not really a believer...So, it is a very important matter that we have security in relationship to the righteousness of the law.

*OR These church is not very spiritual-*

Now, Christians basically made ~~two~~ <sup>a big</sup> mistakes when we see ourselves living in the flesh or sinning. We make ~~two~~ <sup>a</sup> mistakes *in our thinking*

(1) ~~One is that~~ we believe that the law can check ~~it~~ <sup>sin</sup>. Suppose you met a friend, who is sinning a lot, and you know it. And so you go to him and you say: "What is the matter with you?"...<sup>uh</sup> "AH, well, ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> am sinning a lot!"

<sup>uh</sup> "Well, don't you know what the Bible says?" And you point out to him a few verses from the Old Testament.

And he might say, "Thank you, I have read them before."

"Oh, well, have you read these?" and ~~you~~ <sup>you</sup> share a few more verses. You put on him. And you say, "What is the matter with you? Stop doing this."

And he says, "Well, I would like to, and I have been trying. But I can't." <sup>uh</sup> "What do you mean you can't?"

Now, you see the fellow that is talking to him is really ~~deceiving~~ <sup>deceiving</sup> himself because he knows that he has the same problem. But you see, this ~~one~~ <sup>sin</sup> came out on the surface. And everybody started noticing it. And so now he is trying to help, quote "his friend." by applying the law to him. And do you know what? It doesn't work. He is still sinning. And he knows the law. And he is all the more frustrated. And the more law that you give to him the worst it gets.

*next*

Now, there is nothing wrong with the law. The law is spiritual, holy, just, and good says Romans 7.

But, what you should say to your friend is: <sup>Have John</sup> Are you really tried of it all? <sup>wouldn't really</sup> ~~would~~ you ~~really~~ like to give up the whole thing?"

And he says, "Man, I sure would. I am sick and tired of this whole rat race."....."Tremendous, Boy ~~do~~ I have good news for you."

"What is that?"

"You ~~know~~ don't have to try and live the christian life."

"What do you mean, I don't have to try and live the christian life?"

"You don't have to pay any attention to that at all. Don't even worry about it."

"~~What~~ do you mean I don't have to worry about it?"

"Well, God has given you his own presence, the Holy Spirit, who will perform all that is necessary that you read in the Bible."

"He will just do it."

You see, your problem is...that you are getting in the way.

*OUR SIN nature gets in the way*

Now, let's see that in light of Romans chapter 8. <sup>and then</sup> ~~Here~~ are four things that I want you to know.

(1) First of all, our position in Christ. Don't make any mistake about it. Vs 1.. "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ."

The word "condemnation" means a "sentence of judgment."

Example: when the unbelievers stand in Revelations 20 before the Great White Throne Judgement seat of God, the sentence is: "Whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." *or Hell*

That is the sentence.....There is no sentence to the believer in J. 6. Paul makes that very ~~clear~~ clear as he begins. There is no condemnation, whatsoever.

(2) Now, secondly, there is a principle involved here that you must get awholed of in Vs 2. And that is the principle of the spirit of life that has made you free from the law of sin and death.

Will you notice the tense of that verb in Vs 2? It does not say that the Sprit will make you free, <sup>as</sup> ~~as~~ long as you do what Cod wants you to do.

*and*

That is not what it says. It says that the Spirit has already made you free from the law of sin and death.

Now, that is encourageing. That brings real security to the believers to know that he has already been set free from the law, or the domination of sin over his life. It was broken the moment you became a christain. And the Holy Spirit is in you now. He has already set you free.

A lot of people don't know it, or enjoy it. But it has happened. (36) Now, the third thing is to notice the purpose of Christ. Vs 3 says: "For what the law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh."

Now, it doesn't say that he was sinful, or had an old sin nature. He came in the likeness of it. He was man. Jesus was God in human flesh.

What did he do? He paid for all that the law demanded. And he fulfilled the law in his own life. Perfect righteousness. So, he took care of the sin problem. And remember this: that when the Holy Spirit is controlling your life, what is seen in your life?.....WHY, JESUS IS SEEN IN YOUR LIFE...

Did you know that the life of Jesus is the law. It is! Everything the law says is good, is Holy, is just, is spiritual....that is the life of Jesus. He fulfilled it. He lived it to its very letter.

And the Bible says that you don't have to try and do that. Instead, the Holy Spirit has been given unto you, Christian, to live the life of Jesus God knows that we cann't. And that is why he gave us the Holy Spirit. That Christ's life will be lived in us.

Now, there is a great Bible teach that I am sure you have heard of. Dr. MacGee...I am sure you have heard of him. Well, he wrote a neat little book on Romans. And he has a great illustration on Vs 3. Now, if you don't like illustrations, you can blame Dr. MacGee and not me...

But here is the illustration;... And I think it is tremendous in explaining how the law couldn't do what Christ did, and What the Holy Spirit

Jesus ~~can~~ do in our lives

Now, ladies you have gooked a roast to where it is really nice and juicy and tender...(Boy, I am hungre right now)....It is so juicy and tender. Oh, it is just perfect....

And ~~you~~ <sup>you</sup> stick a fork into that roast <sup>Turkey</sup> to left it out off the pan and the fork slips out off the roast. And what happens? You tear the meat a little bit...And the roast <sup>Turkey</sup> is so tender...And the fork cann't left it out off the pan....So, you have to put a skimer underneath of it to pick up the roast and take it out off the pan.

Have you ever noticed that the roast <sup>Turkey</sup> never jumps up out off the pan and settles on the plate? Have you ever noticed that?

Well, you husbands have notice that because ~~you~~ <sup>your</sup> wife usually says, <sup>How</sup> "Come over and left this bird out off the pan unto the plate"....

Now, often we use a wrong method. We should think about it. But we don't. And often we keep sticking the fork into the trucky and it keeps coming out.

~~✱~~ Now, the fork is the law. And the skimmer is the Holy Spirit. Think about it. And it is a great little illustration.

There is nothing wrong with the law. ~~You see~~ <sup>But</sup>, there was something wrong with the flesh. It was weak. So, what the law couldnot do because of the weakness of the flesh, the Holy Spirit does, you see.

And the ~~Δ~~ results are fantastic....

(4f) Which is the fourth thing in Vs 4. The pattern that you can expect in your life, the pattern that you can expect when the HolySpirit is controling you, is the righteousness of the law.

Now, why did Christ come and do all of this for us? Why is the law the Spirit of life working in us? Vs 4 says "that the requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."

And that is encouragement to my life. That is security to me. Because what I can't do...what the law can't do...The Holy Spirit can...

And that is beautiful! ~~Why' not let his law control your life~~  
~~Let the law control you~~