

The Holy Spirit: Sanctification and the Eternal Security of Believers

Romans 8:1-11

Part 3

Introduction

1. Every human being, without exception, is sinful (Rom. 1:18-3:20)
2. Because of our sin; we all stand condemned because of our rebellion against God (Rom. 1:32; 2:1-3,5-6,12; 3:9-20; 5:16,18 and 8:1)
3. The whole of the Bible speaks of, "The Good News"—God's "Good news." Jesus' representative life and substitutionary death, enables our sin to be forgiven, justly (Rom. 3:21-4:25)
4. Having been saved (i.e. fully, completely, eternally); the Christian embarks on a life of sanctification (being set apart by God for God—for a life of holiness) (Rom. 5:1-8:39)
5. We considered how the Christian relates to the law (Rom. 8:1-4)
 1. The law is a reflection of the character of an infinitely holy God (the 10 commandments)
 2. The moral law is powerless to save but it does reveal the magnitude of our sin
 3. The result: The law becomes, "the law of sin and death" (8:2b)
6. How can anyone be saved?

"What the law was powerless to do... God did" (8:3)

1. God the Father took the initiative to save the undeserving, only because, of His grace, love and mercy (Eph. 2:1-10)
2. God the Father sent His One and only Son (Jesus) into the world
 - Jesus, (born of the virgin) was fully man and fully God
 - Jesus, was born to represent us, and die as a "sin offering" (8:3b)
He bore the punishment that our sin deserved, that God's justice and love might be satisfied

And, after Jesus' ascension into heaven,

3. God the Father and God the Son, sent the Holy Spirit "who gives life" as opposed to the law which brings "death" (8:2)

The Holy Spirit applies the work the Son accomplished in obedience to the Father; to those the Father gave the Son

As a result,

4. "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (8:1)
 1. The perfect requirement of obedience to the moral law has been satisfied by our being "in Christ," who as our Representative, perfectly obeyed the law
 2. The past, present and future sin of the believer, has been atoned for in the death of Jesus
 3. Obeying the moral law is not the basis for our salvation, but it is the evidence of our salvation

And this evidence of salvation is given through the Spirit who enables the Christian to love God, and please Him

So, our "walk," is a critical indicator as to whether or not we are Christians

1. The first element of the contrast: Life in accordance with the flesh (Rom. 8:5-8)

1. Life according to the flesh (Rom. 8:5,6)

1. The essence of the unconverted state (NASB) (8:5)

2. Definition: Life “according to the flesh” (8:5)
3. Being governed according to the flesh is a natural and fixed position (8:5) (NASB)
4. Manifestation of this mindset (Rom.8:7,8)
 1. The fallen mind is “hostile to God” (8:7)
 2. The fallen mind, “does not submit (8:7)
 1. The verb is a military term for being subject to orders
 2. The present tense
 3. The fallen mind cannot do so (8:7)
 4. The result of being controlled by the fallen mind (8:8)
5. The consequence of a lifestyle lived “according to the flesh” (Rom.8:6) (NASB)

2. The second element of the contrast: Life in accordance with the Holy Spirit—deliverance and transformation (8:9)

1. Believers belong to the realm of the Spirit (lit. “in the Spirit”) (1Cor.3:16; 6:19; Jn.3:7-8)
2. Apart from the indwelling Spirit a person cannot be a Christian (8:9;)
3. The proof of the Spirit’s presence (Matt.7:20-23)
4. The mindset of the believer (8:5) (NASB)
5. The consequences for the believer
 1. Peace with God and eternal life (8:6)
 2. The basis of Christian peace and life (8:10,11)
 1. Christ’s imputed/credited righteousness and substitutionary death (8:10)
 2. The Sacrificial atonement made by Christ is the basis for the work of the Spirit (8:10; 2Cor.1:21; Eph.1:13-14; 1Cor.15:20-23,40-44)
 3. The ministry of the Trinity: The Spirit; securing the salvation of those the Father gave the Son (8:9,9,10,11)

Conclusion