

The Law of the Spirit of Life (Rom 8)

I. Gospel Review — Divine Power to Save [slide 1]

Rom. 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for **it** is the power of God for salvation **to** everyone who believes, to the **Jew** first and also to the **Greek**. 17 For in it the **righteousness of God** is revealed from faith **for** faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

A. Sin & Intervention

(1:18-3:20 A detour to show the need for Christ’s intervention)

B. Salvation – (3:21-5:21 Righteousness Imputed)

Explained

Rom. 3:21 But now the **righteousness of God** has been manifested apart from the law, ...23 for all have sinned and fall short of the **glory of God**, 24 and are **JUSTIFIED** by his grace as a gift, through the **redemption** that is in Christ Jesus.
[slide 2]

Expressed — Abraham

Rom 4:23 But the words “**it was counted to him**” were **not** written **for his sake alone**, 24 but **for ours also**. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord. —>

C. Redemption and Reigning in Life (Rom 5)

Experienced — Peace with God, Hope, Love poured out

1. Redemption’s Riches (Rom 5:1-12)

2. Ending the Reign of Death

Rom 5:12 sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, ...14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, ...

3. Reigning in Life

Rom 5:17 For if, **because** of one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one man, **much more** will those who **receive** the **abundance** of

grace and the **free gift of righteousness** **reign in life** through the one man **Jesus Christ**.

III. TRANSFORMATION into His LIKENESS

A. Dead to Sin, Alive to God (Rom 6)

6:1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that **grace** may abound?

4 We were **buried** therefore **with him** by baptism **into death**, in order that, **just as Christ** was **raised from the dead** by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in **newness of life**. [slide 3]

KNOW [slide 4]

6 We **KNOW** that our old self was **crucified with him** in order that the **body of sin... brought to nothing**, ... **NO LONGER be enslaved to sin**.

CONSIDER, RECKON, COUNT [slide 5]

11 So you also **must CONSIDER** [reckon, count] yourselves dead to sin and **alive to God** in Christ Jesus.

PRESENT, YIELD [slide 6]

13 **Do not present** your members to sin ..., but **PRESENT yourselves** to God **as those** who have been **brought from death to life**, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

23 For the wages of sin is death, but **the free GIFT of God is eternal life** **IN** Christ Jesus our Lord. [slide 7]

B. Dead to the Law Alive to the Spirit! NEW SYSTEM

Rom 7:4 Likewise, my brothers, you also have **died to the law** through the body of Christ, **so that you may belong to another**, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. [slide 8]

6 But **now** we are **released from the law**, **having died** to that which held us captive, so that **we serve in the new way of the Spirit** and not in the old way of the written code. [slide 9]

IV. Freedom — the Law of the Spirit of Life

Chapter 8 answers the questions raised in 6 & 7. **Holy Spirit** is the focus and dynamic. **No Condemnation** —> **No Separation** (in between there **no defeat** — more than conquerors).

Not a single IMPERATIVE in the entire chapter. Constant leading of Holy Spirit in the life of the believer.

A. No Condemnation: The Spirit and Law (1 - 4)

8:1 There is therefore **now** no condemnation for those who are *in* Christ Jesus. 2 *For the **law of the Spirit of life** has **set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.*** [slide 10]

Now — The conclusion of Salvation. In THIS age...

Law – like gravity, the governing principle

selfishness; dishonesty; fear; resentment —> **love, humility, truth, forgiveness** —> **freedom**

3 For **God has done** what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By **sending *his own* Son** in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he **condemned sin in the flesh,**

God **has done** it! His **OWN** Son... NIV for a “sin offering”

Condemned sin ... condemned, not occuppied, to be demolished

4 in order that *the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*

Fulfilled in us (3:31 we uphold the law) — light of the world, salt of the earth

According to — under relational influence

B. No Obligation: Flesh, Spirit, Adoption (5-17)

Ro 8:5 For those who live (lit. EXIST) according to the flesh set their **minds** on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their **minds** on the things of the Spirit. 6 For to set the **mind** on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 For the **mind** that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it **does not submit** to God's law; indeed, it **cannot**. 8 Those who are in the flesh **cannot** please God.

9 **You, however, are NOT in the flesh** but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, although the **body is dead** because of sin, the Spirit is ζωή life because of righteousness. 11 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.

Body subject to death (*mortal*)

The Holy Spirit GIVES LIFE to our mortal bodies (makes them alive with divine life), immortally alive.

THE COSMIC WAR IS WON BY ADOPTION (Ps 2)

12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, **you will live** (supernaturally “already—not yet”). 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we **are** children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ,

provided we **suffer** with him in order that we may also be **glorified** with him. INDIVISIBLE INHERITANCE

Gal 4:7 No longer a slave, but a son.

SONS — ADOPTION — Hebrews 1; Phil 2; Ps 2:7-9

C. No Separation: The Spirit and the Struggle (18-39)

No one and nothing is able to separate us from the love of Christ!

No condemnation now I dread,
Jesus, and *all* in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th' eternal throne,
And claim the crown, thru Christ my own.
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

V. Application — the Law of the Spirit of Life

Live According to the Spirit; Mind on the Spirit —>Life & Peace

No obsession w/ frustration and futility swirling around;

fear; selfishness; dishonesty; fear; resentment —> love, humility, truth, forgiveness —> freedom

Delight in the Promises of God that found their YES in Christ

Ps 1; 2 Pet 1 Great & Precious Promises

Application – Where can I express Freedom, Love, Faith?

The **RIVER** is here —> Gen 2; Ps 36; 46; Ez 47; Jn 7:37; Rev 22:1

Baptism, Filling, Fill me up, Lord! Is anyone thirsty?

Activation – Gifts

Commission – Purpose