

All Things New

A Biblical Study of Sanctification from Romans 6 through 8

*For the purpose of
discovering God's truth and resources
for victorious Christian living.*

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ALL THINGS NEW

Part One

Day 1

One of the most profound statements of scripture is found in 2 Corinthians 5:17. It states: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Most Christians only begin to grasp the wonder of this statement by acknowledging that salvation is a new beginning. Yet with Paul's statement to the church of Corinth, God has defined salvation as a total and radical remake of the individual and all that pertains to his or her life. Salvation involves a new creation of a person in the fashion that God created the universe – *ex nihilo*, or – out of nothing. Salvation involves all things new in a person's life.

Bible expositor and Pastor John Gill lists some of the newness of salvation: "there is a new course of life, both of faith and holiness; a new way of serving God through Christ by the Spirit, and from principles of grace; a new, another, and better righteousness is received and embraced; new companions are sought after, and delighted in; new riches, honours, glory, a new Jerusalem, yea, new heavens, and a new earth, are expected by new creatures: or the sense of the whole may be this, if any man is entered into the kingdom of God, into the Gospel dispensation, into a Gospel church state, which seems to be the sense of the phrase "in Christ", in #Ga 3:28 5:6 6:15 he is become a new creature, or is got into a new creation, as it were into a new world, whether he be a Jew or a Gentile; for with respect to the former state of either, "old things are passed away"; if a Jew, the whole Mosaic economy is abolished; the former covenant is waxen old, and vanished away; the old ordinances of circumcision and the passover are no more; the daily sacrifice is ceased, and all the other sacrifices are at an end, Christ, the great sacrifice, being offered up; the priesthood of Aaron is antiquated, there is a change of it, and of the whole law; the observance of holy, days, new moons and sabbaths, is over; the whole ceremonial law is at end; all the shadows of it are fled and gone, the things they were shadows of being come by Christ, the sum and substance of them; and there is no more a serving God in the oldness of the letter, but in the newness of the Spirit: and if a Gentile, all the former idols he worshipped he turns from, and his language is, "what have I to do any more with idols? or what agreement hath the temple of God with idols?" all former sacrifices, superstitious rites and ceremonies, with which he worshipped them, are relinquished by him; with all other heathenish customs, rules, and methods of conduct he had been used to: "behold, all things are become new"; to the one, and to

the other; the Gospel dispensation is a new state of things; a new form of church state is erected, not national, as among the Jews, but congregational, consisting of persons gathered out of the world, and anew embodied together; new ordinances are appointed, which were never in use before, as baptism and the Lord's supper; a new and living way is opened by the blood of Christ into the holiest of all, not by the means of slain beasts, as among the Jews, nor by petty deities as with the Gentiles; a new commandment of love is enjoined all the followers of the Lamb; and another name is given them, a new name, which the mouth of the Lord their God has named, not of Jews nor Gentiles, but of Christians; and new songs are put into their mouths, even praise to God: in short, the Gospel church state seems to be, as it were, a new creation, and perhaps is meant by the new heavens and new earth, Isa 65:15,17 as well as those who are the proper members of it, are new creatures in the sense before given."

To many Christians, that long quote of Gill's "All things new" list may have been a cumbersome read. Nevertheless, whether you appreciated the list or found it too theological and not very practical, the evidence of the great extent of News Things is clear.

To the believer the challenge of discovering the wonderful newness of salvation and what this means to our daily life is a life long pursuit. Imagine yourself as C.S. Lewis's Digory, following your friend Polly, adventuring into a brand new world to rediscover the wonders of creation. The discovery of salvation's newness is not fiction but fact, it is an adventure with exciting discoveries to reward the pursuer. The purpose of this study is to assist the Christian in seeking the thrill of those discoveries.

TO DO: Take time to read the first eight chapters of Romans. Try to discover the points of transition in the epistle which move from a discussion of Condemnation, to a discourse on Justification, and then focus on the theme of Sanctification. Mark the text divisions:

<u>THEME</u>	<u>TEXT</u>
Condemnation	_____
Justification	_____
Sanctification	_____

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Day 3

Although your answers may differ, I see Paul sharing five new wonders for the believer in Romans 6-8 and elaborating on each one.

Paul speaks of a New Relationship characterized by the theme “raised” (6:1-14). Paul speaks of a New Responsibility characterized by the theme “servant” (6:8-23). Paul addresses a New Release characterized by “liberty” (7:1-6). Paul examines the believer’s New Rivalry characterized by an ongoing “warfare” (7:7-25). And finally, Paul speaks of the believer’s New Resource, God’s own indwelling “Spirit” (8:1-39).

The New Relationship Declared

Paul laid down an argument for the condemnation of all men. Read Romans 3:9, 23. What did Paul declare the condition of all men to be? _____

What did Paul declare the wages of sin to be in Rom. 6:23?

Paul declared all men to be under sin and as a consequence spiritually dead. Charles Spurgeon explained “everywhere in Scripture men are divided into two classes, with a very sharp line of distinction between them... sheep lost and sheep found... guests refusing invitations and guests feasting at the table... wise virgins and foolish... sheep and goats... dead in sin and quickened... children of God and children of wrath... enemies of God and those reconciled with God.” The Bible affirms the certainty of spiritual death before salvation time and time again.

How is this contrast in the classes of men stated in Rom. 6:23?
_____ versus _____

Paul affirms the state of death versus eternal life. How does Paul describe the point of transition from death to life in Rom. 6:4?

Paul declares the believer to be raised from the dead to walk in newness of life. Circle the phrase in Rom. 6:2 that indicates *when* this transition took place.

Circle the phrase in Ephesians 2:1 that describes the newness of life.

Rom. 3:9 What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.

3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Rom. 6:23 The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6

1 ¶ What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?

2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Eph. 2: 1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,

*everywhere in
Scripture men are
divided into two
classes, with a very
sharp line of
distinction between
them. . sheep lost
and sheep found. .*

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At the point of accepting Christ as Saviour, the believer has “died to sin” (Rom. 6:2) and been “made alive” (Eph. 2:1) to God. As much as Scripture attests to the certainty of death before salvation, it attests to the certainty of life at salvation.

How does 1 John 5:11-12 describe the certainty of having life from God? _____

Our New Relationship is declared to be “raised” at the moment Jesus enters the life of a believer. “He that has the Son has life” (1 John 5:12)

Have you the certainty of Christ in your life? _____

If your answer is no, take time now to confirm His gift of eternal life in prayer, by receiving Jesus as your personal Saviour.

If your answer is yes, take time now to offer a prayer of gratitude for God’s gift of life.

Day 4

The New Relationship Defined

In Romans 6:3-10, Paul defines a believer’s New Relationship in three distinct ways: by identification (3-4), by mortification (5-6) and by sanctification (7-10). Write the key words Paul uses for each definition beside the text:

<u>TEXT</u>	<u>KEY WORD</u>
Identification (3-4)	_____
Mortification (5-6)	_____
Sanctification (7-10)	_____

By the use of things familiar to the Christians at Rome, Paul expresses what this New Relationship is. He focuses on the key concepts of *baptism*, *crucifixion*, and *to live*.

Baptism was the cultural way of expressing total identification. The Greek word *baptidzo* meant to dip or immerse. Craftsmen “baptized” (dipped) the newly formed swords in cold water to temper them for battle. Soldiers “baptized” (dipped) their spears in blood before battle to express allegiance to the cause. John the Baptist called Israel to repentance and “baptized” them as a public expression of their identification with the message of repentance.

1 John 5:11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

At the point of accepting Christ as Saviour, the believer has “died to sin” and been “made alive” to God.

Romans 6

3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

7 For he who has died has been freed from sin.

8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him.

10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

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What promise did the resurrected Christ give to the believers who met Him at Jerusalem prior to the day of Pentecost? (see Acts 1:5)

How did God show that He kept this promise? (see Acts 2:2-3). _____

God privileged the believers at Pentecost with the opportunity to see the Holy Spirit come upon each one as a “tongue of fire” and to hear speaking in other languages. Later when Peter was sharing the gospel among Gentiles (Acts 10), the same phenomenon occurred. Read Acts 11:11-18, Peter’s explanation of these events and answer the following questions.

How did Peter describe the coming of the Holy Spirit? (v.15) ? _____

What did Peter remember this to be? (v.16) _____

What did God prove by repeating the privilege of visualizing the Holy Spirit’s coming upon these Gentiles? (v.18) _____

To the early church, God demonstrated in a visual and audible way that He kept His promise of “baptizing” *all* believers, Jewish and Gentile, with the Holy Spirit. This was repeated once again in Ephesus among Jewish disciples of John the Baptist’s who were not present at Pentecost. Although there are no other recorded instances in Scripture of this privilege being afforded believers, the “baptism” of the Spirit was understood to be of vital significance to the church. For instance, the church of Corinth was established by Paul as indicated in Acts 18. Although there were no visible or audible signs given indicating the “baptism” of the Holy Ghost, Paul describes the importance of this to this church in 1 Corinthians 12:13. Read this text and answer the following questions.

Who did Paul say was baptized by the Spirit?

What did Paul say was the significance of the Baptism of the Spirit?

Acts 1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

Acts 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

Acts 11:11 "At that very moment, three men stood before the house where I was, having been sent to me from Caesarea. 12 "Then the Spirit told me to go with them, doubting nothing. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. 13 "And he told us how he had seen an angel standing in his house, who said to him, 'Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon whose surname is Peter, 14 'who will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.' 15 "And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. 16 "Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, 'John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17 "If therefore God gave them the same gift as He gave us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?" 18 When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life."

1Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

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Paul declared *all* Christians to be baptized by the Spirit, whether they were privileged with the signs or not. He said that the “baptism of the Spirit” *immersed* all believers into one body – Jesus Christ.

Right from the beginning of the church in Acts 2, the Christians expressed their own identification with Christ in a public way. What was this public testimony? (See Acts 2:41, 8:12, 8:38, 9:18, 10:47).

Christians were “baptized” (dipped) in water to identify with Christ’s death, burial and resurrection as a body of united believers. Because of the familiarity with the custom of baptism, the early church did not separate the time of salvation and “Baptism of the Spirit” with their own public baptism. The key message of baptism, by the Spirit as the reality and by water as the testimony, was complete identification with Christ.

Read Romans 6:3-4 again. Here, Paul is defining the New Relationship by the significance of baptism – a complete New Identity for every believer, secured in reality by the baptism of the Spirit, testified in public by the baptism of water. By Spirit baptism every believer is *immersed in Christ*, “buried with Christ and raised with Christ” to Newness of Life.

Take time to meditate on this unique truth. How identifiable is Newness of Life in your own life? Share any meaningful truths God has opened to your heart.

Day 5

Paul goes on to define this New Relationship by mortification. What does Paul say dies when a person receives new life? (Rom. 6:6). _____

In salvation *the old man* is crucified and *the body of sin* is done away with. In scripture the word ‘man’ is used to describe all people (mankind), a person who is male, or to contrast the two natures of man: *old*, referring to those led by the sin nature, and *new*, referring to those conformed to the image of God by new birth.

Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Acts 8:38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

Acts 9:18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

Acts 10:47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

Romans 6

3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Romans 6

5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

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Paul is defining the believer's new relationship as the severing of the controlling influence of man's sin nature with its bondage to sin and the uniting of God's nature by the indwelling, resurrected Christ.

This is a common theme of Scripture. Read Galatians 2:20 and circle the phrase that affirms Paul's testimony of the dead sin nature. Draw a line under the phrase that affirms Paul's new influence.

The believer's New Relationship is a complete transference of controlling influence. In Christ, the sin nature is severed from control, it is rendered dead. The believer's New Relationship is a complete transference of controlling influence where Christ *lives within*. That is why Paul also defines this New Relationship in terms of sanctification.

From what does Paul say the believer is freed? (Rom. 6:7).

How does Paul describe the life that Christ lives within the heart of the believer? (Rom. 6:10)

As Paul indicates in Galatians 2:20 and affirms in our text here, life in Christ is to be freed from sin and alive *to God*. In essence, Paul is describing a believer's sanctification, or "process by which a Christian becomes more God-like." As Christ reigns in the heart, the believer becomes more of a reflection of God's own nature. This is the wonder of the New Relationship characterized by being "*raised*" with Christ.

The Relationship Developed

As with all that God does in man, there are 3 personal responsibilities for every believer involved with this New Relationship.

What does Paul call each believer to do in Romans 6:11-12? _____

1 - Each believer is called to *reckon themselves dead to sin*. 'To reckon' is a mathematical term which means 'to count up the facts and accept them as absolutely true.' If God says the believer is dead to the sin nature, count on it! God does not lie!

2 - What does Paul call each believer to do in Romans 6:12?

Gal. 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Romans 6

7 For he who has died has been freed from sin.

8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him.

10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

The believer's New Relationship is a complete transference of controlling influence.

Romans 6

11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace

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The believer is not to let sin reign, but to let Christ reign! Don't believe the old lie "I'm just human, I can't help myself!" That is not true of the believer since the New Relationship guarantees that I am not just human, that God Himself resides in me and my life is in Christ. I can say no to sin!

3 - What does Paul call each believer to do in Romans 6:13?

The believer is called to surrender our his life in a New Relationship to Christ for His purposes of righteousness.

Conclusion

Spurgeon Wrote: "A raw countryman brought his gun to the gunsmith for repairs. The gunsmith examined it and found it almost too far gone for repairing. He said, "Your gun is in a very worn out, ruinous, good-for-nothing condition, what sort of repairing do you want for it?"

"Well," said the countryman, "I don't see as I can do with anything short of a new stock, lock, and barrel. That ought to set it up again."

"Why," said the smith, "you might just as well have a new gun altogether."

"Ah!" was the reply. "I never thought of that, and it strikes that's just what I do want. A new lock, stock, and barrel. That's about equal to a new gun, and that's what I'll have."

Man's nature requires just this sort of repairing. The old nature cast aside as a complete wreck and good for nothing, and a new one imparted."

What has God said to you through this study?

In Alice In Wonderland, Alice asked the Cheshire Cat, "Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?" The Cat answered, "That depends a good deal on where you want to get to." Our moral decisions depend on where we want to get to.

For the believer, God has severed the *Old Sin Nature*, but He did not remove it. Now it is up to the believer to believe and practice the truth of the New Relationship – RAISED with Christ! Choice is still a believer's responsibility!

Take time in prayer to examine you own life. Ask God to identify any areas where you are still allowing the sin nature to reign. Claim the victorious life of the risen Saviour each day.

*Don't believe the old lie
"I'm just human,
I can't help myself!"*

Romans 6

11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace

*We all
have some
dying to do.
Jesus
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Part Two

Day 1

When Honorius was emperor of Rome, about the year A.D. 400, the great Coliseum of Rome was often filled to overflowing with spectators. These had come from far and near to view the state games. Part of the sport consisted in watching as human beings battled with wild beasts or against one another until one or the other was killed. The assembled multitude made Roman holiday of such sport and found its highest delight in the death of a human being. It was on such a day when the vast crowd was watching the contest that a Syrian monk by the name of Telemachus stood up in the vast arena. Telemachus was torn by the utter disregard for the value of human life and so he leaped into the arena in the midst of the gladiatorial show and cried out, "This thing is not right! This thing must stop!" Because he was interfering with their pleasure, the authorities gave the command for Telemachus to be run through with a sword, which was done. His dying words were reported to be "In the name of Christ, stop!" Thus he died, but in dying he kindled a flame in the hearts and consciences of thinking persons. History records that because of this within a few months the gladiatorial combats began to decline and very shortly they passed from history. Why? Because one man dared to speak out for what he felt was right.

This monk took his responsibility before the Lord seriously. Perhaps he understood that part of the Newness of Life in Christ is a New Responsibility – Servanthood.

The New Responsibility Declared

In sharing the wonders of Newness in Christ, Paul began with explaining the believer's New Relationship (Rom. 6:1-14). What word characterized this relationship?

Because the believer is *raised* with Christ to Newness of Life, he or she can experience true release from the old nature and find victory over temptation and sin. From here, Paul addresses a New Responsibility each believer has (Rom. 6:8-23). Read this passage and answer the following questions:

What wrong conclusion might the Jewish believers have come to after hearing about the new life in Christ? (v. 15)

Romans 6

- 15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!
- 16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?
- 17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.
- 18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.
- 19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.
- 20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.
- 21 What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.
- 22 But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.
- 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Because the believer
is raised with Christ
to Newness of Life,
he or she can
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Why might the Jewish believers in particular have come to this conclusion? (v. 14) _____

Given the fact that Paul emphasised freedom from the law, he was concerned that this new relationship would lead to an improper conclusion and *be construed to be a licence to sin*. Paul had already clarified the role of the law in life. For what purpose, according to Romans 3:20, had God given Israel the law? _____

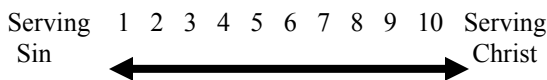
In scripture “The Law” can mean: (a) the first 5 books of the Bible called the Pentateuch, or it can mean (b) the actual list of commands God gave Israel including the moral law (10 commandments), the ceremonial law (sacrifices) and the civil law (how to treat one another). It can also mean (c) just the moral law (10 commandments). Here in Romans it seems clear that Paul is referring to either (b) or (c). The commandments of God reflect the Holy character of the Lord and reveal man’s sinful nature. How does Paul describe sin in Romans 3:23?

Sin is *falling short of the glory* or moral character of God of which the law gives perfect testimony. Because of the severing of the sin nature and implanting of God’s own nature in the believer’s life, a new freedom of choice is available. How does Paul describe this new freedom of choice in Romans 6:15? _____

The new relationship characterized by being “*raised with Christ*” privileges the believer with the *choice of which to obey, sin or righteousness*. This is a matter of faith and practice which begins with a simple personal assessment. In essence Paul is asking a rhetorical question: “Don’t you know that whoever you surrender to, that’s who you serve?”

The truth is clear, even after salvation’s Newness, a believer can choose to serve sin rather than serve Christ.

How would you rate your own yieldedness?



How has God spoken to you in this day’s study?

Rom. 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

Rom. 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

We are sinners and need only to confess that grace may abound.

Rom. 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Rom.6:16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?

Sin is falling short of the glory or moral character of God of which the law gives perfect testimony.

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Day 2

The New Responsibility Defined

Paul defines the New Responsibility pointing out the transition of salvation. How does Paul describe the state of a person before salvation? (Rom. 6:17).

At the time that Paul wrote this epistle, there were over 6 million slaves in the Roman empire. Slavery was a part of life. Freedom and citizenship was a privilege of the upper class of society. God states that before salvation, all people are *slaves to sin*.

Write your own ideas of the comparison between Roman slavery to being slaves to sin. _____

Slavery in Rome meant many things, not all of which were bad; however, when compared to the slavery of sin certain aspects are apparent. Slavery meant being in bondage with no freedom and no will of your own. Slavery meant being subject to the whims of another's moral and ethical character, which could mean the most decadent and degenerate of behaviour. Slavery meant no security in life or death; slaves could be put to death for any reason even as an animal. For most, slavery meant no hope of release, no say in your family's future, no voice in public, no choices in life.

What did Paul say the point of deliverance from slavery to sin was in Romans 6:17?

Paul spoke of *obeying from the heart* the teaching they had presented to them. He is not talking about a salvation by works. The doctrine they had heard was the gospel of Jesus Christ which Paul focussed on in Romans 3:21-5:21. How did Paul summarize the gospel in Romans 5:6-9?

Rom. 6:17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.

18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

Contrary to popular opinion, sin is not what you want to do but can't; it is what you should not do because it will hurt you--and hurt you bad. ... God is not a policeman; He is a Father concerned about His children. When a child picks up a snake and the father says, "Put that down right this minute!" the child thinks he's losing a toy. The fact is, he is not losing a toy; he is losing a snake.

-- Steve Brown

Rom. 5:6 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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How does Paul describe “obeying from the heart” in Romans 10:9-10? _____

The gospel in a nut shell is “*Christ died for us.*” This fact the believers in Rome had *believed in their heart and confessed with their mouths.* That point of decision was the deliverance of salvation from slavery to sin.

The result of this deliverance is a New Responsibility. How does Paul define this new responsibility in Romans 6:18? _____

Write your own ideas of what it means to be a *slave of righteousness.*

The result of a believer’s New Relationship is a New Responsibility – slavery to righteousness. This means that the ruling principle in the Christian’s life is righteousness.

Can you think of any other Bible verses that refer to righteousness? If so, write them out in the margin to the right.

How has God spoken to you through this day’s study?

Rom. 10:8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Rom. 6:18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it--but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor.

Day 3

So far in our study we have seen Paul call the believer to yield his life as an instrument of righteousness (6:13) and to obey Christ as slaves of righteousness (6:18). The word *righteousness* is found 92 times in the King James New Testament as is defined as: the state of him who is as he ought to be, righteousness, the condition acceptable to God; integrity, virtue, purity of life, correctness of thinking, feeling, and acting

ALL THINGS NEW

Righteousness is a part of the believer's life in two distinct ways. According to Paul, how is righteousness first a part of the believer's life in Romans 4:3,5,6?

In each of these verses God "declares" the believer to be righteous as a result of faith. Righteousness is "accounted" or "imputed" to the believer. Paul makes this clear in Romans 3:10 "As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one;" Imputed righteousness is having someone else's righteousness put in the believer's "spiritual bank account."

Read Romans 3:21-26. Whose righteousness is imputed to each believer? (v.24-25) _____

What is God able to do as a result of imputed righteousness to believers? (v. 26).

Christ's righteousness is imputed to every believer allowing God to *justify all who have faith in Jesus*. The doctrine of justification is based upon declared or imputed righteousness. Because man has no righteousness to offer God, the only way a sinner can be saved is to be justified by the unearned and undeserved imputed righteousness of Christ. What does God declare the result of this righteousness to be in Romans 5:1?

The result of justification is *peace with God*.. According to Paul, how is righteousness next a part of the believer's life in Romans 6:16?

Paul now speaks of a practical righteousness evidenced in a believer's life. How does Paul say this practical righteousness is produced? (6:16).

How does Hebrews state this practical righteousness is produced? _____

Romans 4:3 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."

Romans 4:5 But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,

Romans 4:6 just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works.

Rom. 3:21 But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Rom. 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Romans 6:16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?

Hebrews 12:11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

:

ALL THINGS NEW

Practical righteousness has been defined as integrity, virtue, purity of life, correctness of thinking, feeling, and acting. This is produced by God in a believer's life through *obedience* and developed through *chastening* or discipline.

Take time to thank God for His imputed righteousness, without which no one could be saved and find peace with God.

Evaluate the evidence of practical righteousness in your life. How determined are you to be obedient to God's word?

No desire to obey 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 great desire to obey
←—————→

Is there now or has there ever been a time when God chastened you in order to produce His character? If so, explain what took place and how you responded.

According to James 1:2, how does God want us to respond to the trials that produce righteousness?

What practical righteousness does trial produce according to this text? _____

God wants the believer to *rejoice* in trials because these times of testing and chastening produce the Godly character of patience which leads to the perfecting of God's practical righteousness in our lives.

How has God spoken to you through this day's study?

Day 4

God's continuing work in a believer's life is the work of "producing righteousness" in the same character as Christ's. That is why Hebrews calls this the "fruit" of righteousness.

*the testing of your faith produces patience
But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.*

James 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. ⁴ But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

God's continuing work in a believer's life is the work of "producing righteousness" in the same character as Christ's.

ALL THINGS NEW

The New Responsibility Developed

According to Romans 6:18 the believer's New Responsibility is _____

Paul begins a comparative analysis to help the Christian become fully aware of this New Responsibility of *being a servant (slave) of righteousness*. First he compares the transition of duty.

According to Rom. 6:19, who or what was a person duty bound to serve prior to salvation?

It is easy to see the cycle of degenerative activity to which an unsaved person is in bondage. Paul states that serving uncleanness and lawlessness only leads to greater lawlessness. This is the character of unsaved man, locked or bound in sin with no hope of escape and an ever widening cycle of trouble.

List some examples in our own society of a widening cycle of sin or lawlessness. _____

Examples of deepening lawlessness before God are easy to see; morally our society has wandered farther from God with easy divorce, acceptable homosexuality, and free abortion. Ethically, society is constantly calling good, evil and evil, good. Child discipline in the home in accordance to God's standard is "wrong" by society, and yet hindering stay at home mothers through tax laws is considered proper. You may have many other examples of growing evil, but it is clear that bondage to sin only deepens the acceptability of it.

According to Rom. 6:19, who or what was a person duty bound to serve after salvation?

Paul next makes a comparison of benefits. What was the fruit of servanthood to sin according to Rom. 6:21?

Rom 6:18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

Rom. 6:19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.

*Thank God for "purpose" in life.
So many contributive purposes
come into existence when one works
the will of God that there is no
excuse for laziness or wasted time.
He is redeeming our lives, as well
as our souls. -- Jim Elliot*

Rom. 6:20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. 21 What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.

ALL THINGS NEW

The fruit of servanthood to sin is *shame and death*. Although the world may not sense its shame now, scripture speaks of a time when every knee shall bow to Christ and every tongue confess Him as Lord. This will be a time of shame and judgment. How does Paul describe the benefit (fruit) of servanthood to God in Rom. 6:22? _____

In complete contrast to the terrible benefits of servanthood to sin, servanthood to God brings the fruit of *holiness and everlasting life*. Have you evidenced the work of God in your life that produces holiness? Explain: _____

Finally, Paul makes a comparison of reward. First he states what sin earns. According to Rom. 6:23, what does sin earn? _____
At first glance, we see *the wages of sin as spiritual death*, separation from God as spiritually dead before salvation and eternally dead – separated forever from God, if never saved. Yet sin earns the death of many other things. Can you think of what else sin kills? _____

A look as scripture will reveal that God had wonderful plans for mankind. All of which “died” with sin. Sin kills the family as God designed it, sin kills society as God planned it, sin destroys communication as God purposed it, sin wrecks relationships, breaks trust, spoils peace and annihilates the knowledge of God. Sin brought death to all! Even nature is said to “groan” because of sin.

What does Paul contrast the wages of sin to in Rom. 6:23?

Paul reminds the believer that *eternal life is a gift*. Those who have received such a great gift are motivated to respond in gratitude to serving the Giver.

How have you responded to God’s gift of eternal life?

How has God spoken to you through this day’s study?

Rom. 6:22 But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

Whatever injury wicked men-in-power inflict upon good men is to be regarded ... as a test for the good man's virtues. Thus, a good man, though a slave, is free; but a wicked man, though a king, is a slave. For, a wicked man serves not just one master, but, what's worse, as many masters as he has vices. For, it is in reference to vice that the Holy Scripture says: "For by whom a man is overcome, of the same also he is the slave" (2 Peter 2:19).

-- Saint Augustine

Rom. 6: 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALL THINGS NEW

Part Three

Day 1

Our dog Hunter is a German bred Munsterlander. Although he suits his name well, we might have been more accurate if we had called him Houdini because he has become a master escape artist! Although we try to keep Hunter secure in our own property, this crazy dog has managed to figure out how to free himself, first from a dog chain fixed to a clothes line. This he made disappear, I suppose to remove the threat of further restraint. Not to be out-foxed by a dog, we fastened the dog leash with a stronger collar clasp to a tree. This Hunter also unfastened and made disappear. Our last effort was to use the strong rope from our trailer and tie it securely with double knots. This, too, Hunter managed to “untie” (fortunately he left this behind for continued use).

Why does Hunter work so hard to escape? He does so because he loves his freedom. He is bred to be a hunter, to follow his nose and give chase in the freedom of the great outdoors.

Freedom is a precious commodity and one of the great things ‘new’ about salvation’s experience is a New Release – characterized by freedom.

The New Release Introduced

Paul introduces this new release in Romans 7:1-6. Read this passage and answer the following questions.

Paul had introduced the theme of bondage or slavery in chapter 6 of Romans. Salvation’s New Relationship is characterized by what word? _____. This privileges the believer with a New Responsibility characterized by what word? _____.

Being *raised* with Christ affords the believer the privilege of *servanthood* to righteousness. However, the idea of servanthood to righteousness would provoke the Jewish believers to question where the law come into play. Paul, anticipating this inquiry, clarifies salvation’s New Release from the Old Testament Law.

Read Romans 7:1 and write out, in your own words, what Paul was sharing. _____

Romans 7

1 Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives?

2 For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband.

3 So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man.

4 Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another---to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death.

6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

*Being raised with
Christ affords the
believer the
privilege of
servanthood to
righteousness*

ALL THINGS NEW

According to our study, what can the word “law” refer to in scripture? (Try to answer from memory but refer to page 10 if you get stuck.)

The combined moral, civil and ceremonial law consists of some 613 commands for Israel. Yet, from passages such as Acts 15: 1-5, it is clear that the intention of the Law was not grasped by 1st century Judaism. According to this text, what error had been propagated by the men from Judea? (verse 1).

The law (613 commandments) was never a means of salvation as many mistakenly believed. What did Paul state the purpose of the law was in Romans 3:20?

The purpose of the law was *to show man the indwelling principle of sin* he possesses because of the fall. This is the reason man can never live up to the standard of the law as a means of attaining righteousness before God. Believing that the law is a means of salvation is in essence believing that a person can earn salvation. Although there is a lack of familiarity in our society with the Mosaic Law, what other ways might people believe salvation can be earned?

Believing that salvation can be earned by any works is not only completely contrary to all scriptural record, it also places an impossible burden upon anyone trying to please God and earn salvation by doing good. How did Paul describe this kind of a burden in Acts 15: 10-11?

Paul suggests that such a belief is *putting an unbearable yoke on the necks of people*. Have you ever been tempted to think that trying to keep the law or performing some other act of goodness will secure your foothold in heaven? Explain

How has God spoken to you through today’s lesson?

Acts 15

1 ¶ And certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved."

2 Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question.

3 So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, describing the conversion of the Gentiles; and they caused great joy to all the brethren.

4 And when they had come to Jerusalem, they were received by the church and the apostles and the elders; and they reported all things that God had done with them.

5 But some of the sect of the Pharisees who believed rose up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses."

Rom.3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Acts 15:10 "Now therefore, why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? 11 "But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved in the same manner as they."

The purpose of the law was to show man the indwelling principle of sin he possesses because of the fall

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 2

The New Release Illustrated

What situation did Paul use to demonstrate a believer's release from the law in Romans 7:2-3? _____

In order to clarify the believer's New Release from the law, Paul uses the example of *the law of marriage and the death of a spouse*. According to the law of marriage, how long are husband and wife bound to each other?

According to God's law, marriage is binding *until the death of a spouse*. What sin is committed if a spouse leaves a marriage and is married to another, before death "unbinds" the first marriage? _____

The church of Paul's day was very familiar with God's law of marriage. Jesus Himself qualified the Old Testament teaching with His own personal approval. Because of this familiarity, Paul uses this as an example of death freeing people from the law. Paul is not giving a commentary on all the matters that pertain to marriage, he is demonstrating a very important point about the law.

According to Paul's illustration of marriage, at what point is a person free from the law? (verse 3). _____

Death severs the binding nature of the law. Freedom from law must involve death. This is the key point of Paul's illustration. If in the mind of many who were familiar with the law, there was a false belief that righteousness could be earned by keeping the law, the repentance and faith that brings salvation was **death to all self effort**.

There were those who believed salvation could be earned through the law, there were those who believed that although salvation is by faith alone, sanctification (becoming Godlike in character) could only be achieved through the law. Both beliefs are wrong. Looking to the law or going back to the law for holiness is a false presumption.

Rom. 7:2 For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband.

3 So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man.

Death severs the binding nature of the law. Freedom from law must involve death.

ALL THINGS NEW

In Galatians 3:10-14, Paul also explains the relationship of the law to the believer. Read this text and answer the following questions:

What was the result of not fulfilling every aspect of the law all the time? (vs. 10). _____

What was this *curse*? (vs. 13). _____

Who delivered the believer from this curse? (vs. 13) _____

How did *Christ* deliver the believer from this curse? (vs. 13). _____

As well as being redeemed from the curse of the law through faith in Christ, what other promise does the believer receive in Christ? (vs. 14). _____

In Galatians 3, Paul explains that the requirements of the law are beyond the ability of anyone to meet. No one can fulfill all the requirements of the law all the time (with the exception of Jesus). As a result, man is cursed to die as a result of his shortcomings (called sin in Romans 3:23). Faith in Christ **redeems** the believer from the curse. Christ paid the price of man's shortcoming by His own death. Now the believer **lives by faith** as the *promised Holy Spirit* empowers the believer with **liberty** or **freedom** (New Release) from the demands of the law.

The same death that severed the old nature from the believer and brought NEW RELATIONSHIP, is the very death that severed the demands (binding nature) of the law from the believer and brings NEW RELEASE – THE DEATH OF CHRIST!

According to Gal. 3:11, how is the believer to live if not in bondage to the law? _____

Sanctification is as much a matter of faith as salvation itself—faith in the presence and power of indwelling God to work His nature into our lives as a product of His life.

Take time to evaluate your relation to Christ. Are you living according to a set of rules or is God's Spirit the persuading influence of your life? Comment: _____

Gal. 3:10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them."

11 But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for "the just shall live by faith."

12 Yet the law is not of faith, but "the man who does them shall live by them."

13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),

14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

I left my chains, and succeeded in reaching New York without the slightest interruption of any kind. .. I have been frequently asked how I felt when I found myself in a free State. .. It was a moment of the highest excitement I ever experienced. ... I felt like one who had escaped a den of hungry lions. - Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 3

The New Release Investigated.

In applying the principle of “law severed by death,” Paul related the conditions surrounding a believer’s freedom from the law in Romans 7:4-6. Read this passage and answer the following questions:

What is the believer’s point of release from the law? (v.4).

To what is the union of a believer to Christ compared? (v. 4).

What did Paul say the purpose was for this union? (v. 4).

When a believer first accepts Christ as Saviour, the Holy Spirit baptizes that individual into the body of Christ (see page 6 for review of this teaching). Paul here is stating that the point of release from the law is *placement into Christ’s body*. This is the point of salvation, one purpose of which is *to bring forth fruit unto God*.

It was no coincidence that Paul used the illustration of marriage in this passage. This allowed for understanding of the principle of death severing law. It is also a reminder to the believer of the special union of all Christians to Christ. This is further explained in Ephesians 5:25-33. Read this passage from the perspective of a wedding ceremony and answer the following questions:

What is God’s example for husbands to love their wives? (v.25).

According to this passage, for what two purposes did Christ give Himself for the church? (v. 26, 27).

Circle the words of verse 30 that describe the believer’s union with Christ.

Paul describes the marriage of Christ to the church as a great mystery (verse 32), nevertheless he explains that *Christ’s love* for the church is a model for husbands to love

Rom. 7:4 Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another---to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death.

6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

Ephesians 5

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

31 "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

ALL THINGS NEW

their wives. As a bride enters into marriage purity, so Christ has purposed to *sanctify the church* and *present* her to Himself. Christians may find the promise of marriage to Christ something difficult to comprehend, yet the point of union is significant. God desires a special, intimate relationship with each believer as part of His bride. Consider our New Release from the law – our freedom, as a betrothal to Christ.

Considering God’s purposes for betrothal, write out some of the characteristics of the growing relationship an engaged couple enjoys. _____

God’s purpose for betrothal is to furnish an opportunity to develop loving care, tender companionship, and meaningful communication. It is a time to get to know each other intellectually, emotionally, and volitionally. This is the time to develop “soul oneness” prior to the marriage.

Take time to consider your own intimacy with Christ. DO these characterize of betrothal describe your growing relationship with Christ? Comment: _____

How has God spoken to you through today’s study?

Day 4

In yesterday’s study we examined the conditions surrounding the believer’s release from the law. The point of release is _____. The comparison of our union with Christ is _____. One of the purposes for this union is _____.

You have undoubtedly already noticed that these themes are repeated throughout the New Testament. Can you think of a reason why God would repeat these themes so often?

Certainly the influence of Judaism, especially with its “Pharisaical” errors created much confusion in the minds of early Jewish believers. Repetition was obviously a result

Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

ALL THINGS NEW

of having to share the same truths with various Christian communities throughout Asia. However, the importance of these truths also merits repetition. God desires His own to fully understand the uniqueness of New Life in Christ.

As you re-read Romans 7:1-6, identify the recurring themes that relate to New Life in Christ and list them below.

Your list should include such themes as: freedom from the law, freedom from guilt, union in the body of Christ, marriage to Christ, bearing fruit, Christian service, newness of the Spirit.

Having shared the conditions of release from the law which surround the believer, Paul goes on to show the contrasts regarding freedom. In Romans 7:4 Paul introduced the theme of “bearing fruit” as one of the purposes of union with Christ. What does Paul contrast that with in verse 5? _____

According to verse 5, this *fruit to death* was a result of the state of the unbeliever. How does Paul define that state?

Every unbeliever is in a state of being *in the flesh*. This is another way of referring to being under the influence of man’s sin nature. What other term did Paul use to define this state? (Romans 6:6).

What did Paul describe as the motivating force of being in the flesh? (v. 6). _____

Read Romans 7:5 What effect does the law have on sinful passions? _____

How did Paul describe the power of sinful passions working through the law in verse 6? _____

Paul is once again reminding the believer of the old bondage. The sin nature is often called *the old man* in which *sinful passions* or - the desires of the flesh - dictated the manner of life to which an unbeliever is forced to succumb. Paul states that the outcome of this state is fruit to death.

Romans 7

1 Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives?

2 For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband.

3 So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man.

4 Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another---to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death.

6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

Rom. 6:6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

ALL THINGS NEW

“The Flesh” is motivated by *sinful passions*. One of these passions may be sexual self-gratification as opposed to God’s ordained purpose for sexual intimacy. Another passion may be gluttony as opposed to God’s ordained purpose for eating. These sinful passions may be self-ambition, self-centred pursuits, the result of pride, jealousy or anger.

According to verse 5, the law *arouses* sinful passions. Can you think of how sinful passions could be aroused by the false belief that righteousness could be earned by the law?

What greater expression of pride could there be than thinking that a person could make himself good enough to be acceptable to God? What greater expression of self-ambition could there be than to hold to a set of rules beyond the keeping of “average man” with determination and sacrifice, in order to achieve a place in heaven? This describes the belief of the Pharisees, and is the essence of liberal theology today!

Paul states that those in the flesh *are held* by the power of sinful passions working through the law.

What did Paul say about the flesh and the believer in 1 Corinthians 3:1-3? (The word ‘carnal’ and the word ‘flesh’ are different forms of the same word).

Although freed from the sin nature and from the law, Paul is saying that *believers can still, by choice, allow sinful passions to lead them*.

Review “the flesh” list above and identify any sinful passions that may “hold” you and control your life.

Comment on how God has spoken to you through today’s study. _____

Rom. 7:5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death.
6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

*...believers can still, by choice,
allow sinful passions to lead
them...*

*Worldliness is not only doing
what is forbidden but also
wishing it were possible to do it.*

*One of its distinctives is mental
slavery to illegitimate pleasure.*

*Worldliness twists values by
rearranging their price tags.*

Erwin W. Lutze

1 Corinthians 3

1 ¶ And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal [fleshy], as to babes in Christ.

2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able;

3 for you are still carnal [fleshy]. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal [fleshy] and behaving like mere men?

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 5

After defining the old bondage to the flesh, Paul shares, in stark contrast, the new freedom the believer enjoys.

Underline the words in Rom. 7:6 that indicate the transition from “the law” and freedom. These words convey the means by which our transition takes place. The believer has been *delivered* from the law; the believer has *died* to what held him/her in bondage. The believer is *not in the oldness of the letter* of the law.

Because of this transition, the believer enjoys a new expression of life. How does Paul describe that expression in verse 6? _____

Spiritual Freedom is the privilege of every believer. However, unlike my dog Hunter’s freedom which is expressed in following his nose, Christian freedom is the liberty *to serve* God.

What caution does Paul give the believers of Galatia regarding liberty? (See Galatians 5:13).

Can you think of ways in which liberty could give opportunity for the flesh?

Paul cautions believers *not to abuse liberty* by again letting the flesh lead. This could be done by any means that expresses self-centeredness. It often is expressed by the attitude “I am free in Christ, therefore I can do anything.”

Paul shares two check points to help the believer identify genuine service in liberty. Can you identify them in Gal. 5:13, and 14? _____

Genuine service in liberty is marked by a passion to *serve one another* and a heart to *love your neighbour as yourself*.

How does Paul say the believer can avoid falling into the trap of the flesh? (Gal. 5:16). _____

Rom. 7:5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death.

6. But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

Galatians 5

13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

15 But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!

16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Freedom is not liberty to do anything, but the ability to do the right thing. Freedom is not the liberty to do what I please, but the privilege to please God. Liberty is not the denouncement of moral and civil duty but the platform of a deepening manifestation of God’s character in my life.

ALL THINGS NEW

Part Four

Day 1

The first years of my education were spent in a one room school house. Believe it or not, it was a red brick building with one room upstairs that housed all eight grades and a divided basement where the boys played on one side and the girls on the other, when the weather prevented outdoor recess. It was just a few weeks into my first grade year, when a nurse came to the school to check everyone's eyesight. A chart was placed at the front of the classroom and each child was asked to come up and have an eye test involving covering one eye at a time and reading the chart. It may have been that word "test", or it may have been the intimidation of standing before the entire class, but for whatever reason, when I found that I could not read the chart with my right eye covered, I panicked. Rather than admit that I was about to fail my first test, I peeked through the fingers covering my right eye and read the chart as though no problem existed. As a result of that decision, my "lazy eye" condition was not discovered until I was in grade five, when it was too late to make correction! One bad decision has plagued me all my life, leaving me with the practical use of only one eye.

Much of life's blessings or burdens come as a result of our own decisions. Paul, after introducing the believer's New Relationship, New Responsibility, and New Release, addresses the issue of Christian decision making with our New Rivalry – the reality of spiritual warfare.

The New Rivalry – Spiritual Warfare

Read all of Romans chapter 7 and identify the major thoughts Paul is sharing with their reference. (An example is given).

Rom. 7:1-6 – like marriage, people are bound by the law until death. Salvation means severance from the "death principle" of the law and freedom in betrothal to Christ

Romans 7

1 ¶ Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives?

2 For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband.

3 So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man.

4 Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another---to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

*that you may be married to another---
---to Him who was raised*

5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death.

6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

7 ¶ What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."

8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law sin was dead.

9 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died.

10 And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death.

11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me.

12 Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.

13 Has then what is good become death to me?

Certainly not! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.

(continued on the next page)

ALL THINGS NEW

Jesus gave His own commentary on the Moral Law in the Sermon on the Mount. Read Matthew 5:21-30 and answer the following questions.

What did Jesus say was breaking the law as much as committing murder? (verse 22).

The Holy nature of God calls for perfect harmony and love. *Being angry* with someone is a violation of God's Holy character as much as murder is. What did Jesus say His disciples should do when at odds with another person? (v. 23-26). _____

Harmony is so important to God that *Jesus insisted matters be resolved before any attempt at public worship is exercised*.

What did Jesus say was breaking the law as much as committing adultery? (v.28).

The Holy nature of God calls for perfect purity. *Having one lustful thought* is a violation of God's Holy character as much as committing adultery is. What did Jesus say His disciples should do if they could not refrain from the lustful eye? _____

Purity is so important to God that Jesus said it would be better to go blind than to be in bondage to lust.

Jesus mentioned more of the Law than just these two of the ten commandments in His sermon on the mount. With each reference Jesus "raised the standard" to embrace moral perfection. Jesus was teaching that the law reflects the Holy Nature of God and is therefore a means for man to understand just how far short he falls from perfection.

Read James 2:10 and write out in your own words what James is saying about breaking the law of God.

James is simply stating that *anyone who breaks one law of God is as guilty as breaking them all*. The purpose of the law is to prove that man falls short of God's moral perfection. How has God spoken to you through today's study? Ask Him to make you sensitive to sin.

Matt. 5

21 ¶ "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.'

22 "But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

23 "Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,

24 "leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

25 "Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison.

26 "Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no means get out of there till you have paid the last penny.

27 ¶ "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.'

28 "But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

29 "If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

30 "And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

James 2:10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 3

The Nature of Man Proved

After reminding the reader of the purpose of the law, Paul indicates the law's effect on man.

What effect does Paul say the law has? (v.8).

Paul says that when the law points out what sin is, *man is stirred to desire it*. Paul is proving a point – man has a sin nature that, when presented with the knowledge of what sin is, man's sin nature desires it and pursues it. Sin is to man's sin nature as water is to a fish – his "natural element."

Read Romans 7:9-11. In what way was Paul "alive without the law"?

Some would say that Paul is talking about a time when he had no knowledge of his sin because he had not been exposed to God's law, and therefore, believed that he was right before God. However, earlier in the Epistle to the Romans, Paul proved that all men are guilty before God even without the law because of their God-given conscience.

I believe the best way to understand verse 9 is to recognize that Paul (and all people) are guilty of sin but not held accountable until they are old enough to understand sin or wrong, by conscience (as Paul earlier proved) or by God's law (as Paul is here addressing). This "age of innocence" is gone when understanding is developed.

Paul is proving that , even when life begins seemingly innocent by virtue of immature understanding, **the sin nature is present to take control as soon as mental faculties begin to operate and choices are consciously made.**

What then does Paul conclude about the law of God? (v.12). _____

What then does Paul conclude about the affect of the law of God? (v.13).

Rom. 7:7 ¶ What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."

8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law sin was dead.

..man has a sin nature that, when presented with the knowledge of what sin is, man's sin nature desires it and pursues it.

Rom. 7:9 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died.

10 And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death.

11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me.

Rom. 7:12 Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.

13 Has then what is good become death to me? Certainly not! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.

ALL THINGS NEW

Paul concludes that the law is *holy, just and good*. He declares that the law reflects the perfect nature of God and therefore, God's Holy demands. And, although the law binds men in death, *it reveals the sin nature of man* and proves that sin nature to be active, controlling, and altogether wicked from the point of a person's earliest conscious choices. This, too, is good because it is truth!

Read the following verses and circle the phrases in each verse that affirm the sin nature in man: Job 15:16, Psalm 51:5, Psalm 53:2-3, Ecc. 9:3, Jer. 17:9.

It is at the point of realizing the sin nature of man that true appreciation for salvation's "all things new in Christ" (1 Corinthians 5:17) begins. To be "in Christ" is a point of decision based upon belief in three Bible truths. It is first to believe what God says about the spiritual condition of all people: "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). This means that all mankind, without exception, falls drastically short of God's Holy perfection and is spiritually separated from Him. The consequence of this state is eternal separation from God. The second truth is to believe what God says about man's ability to do something about this condition of separation. He says: "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us" (Titus 3:5). Salvation involves a new creation of a person in the fashion that God created the universe – *ex nihilo*, or – out of nothing. Jesus said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of God" (Matt. 5:3). The faith that secures salvation admits that there is nothing of worth to offer God that merits any spiritual gain. Salvation is God alone working His grace in the heart of man which brings us to the third truth to be believed – What God did for helpless man. Out of love, God sent His own Son to die as the only acceptable sacrifice (being perfect God and perfect man) for man's sins: "God demonstrated His love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). Christ's death on the cross satisfied the Holy Wrath of God toward sin and provided the only substitution for man's state of death. This was proven to be so by the resurrection from the dead of Jesus, the one who now offers eternal life to all who will believe.

How has God spoken to you through today's study?

Take time in prayer to thank God for His great work of salvation which has severed the power of this old nature in the Christian's life (Part One of our study).

Job 15:16 How much more abominable and filthy is man, which drinks iniquity like water?

Psalms 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Psalms 53:2 God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, that did seek God. 3 Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Ecclesiastes 9:3 This is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that there is one event unto all: yea, also the heart of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart while they live, and after that they go to the dead.

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

*Salvation involves
a new creation of a
person in the
fashion that God
created the universe
– *ex nihilo*, or –
out of nothing.*

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 4

The Nature of Man Explained

In Romans 7 Paul has demonstrated that the law, although holy and good, proves the sin nature of man and confirms him in death. bringing man to acknowledge his helpless state. Now Paul explains how this sin nature, severed but still existing in the believer falls into a pattern.

Read Romans 7:14-17 and answer the following questions.

After describing the law as spiritual, how does Paul describe himself? (v. 14). _____

How does Paul describe the result of being *carnal*? (v.15) _____

Paul describes himself as being *carnal*. This word means “fleshly.” The word does not describe an unbeliever but a believer who, by virtue of natural birth, still lives in the flesh.

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 and circle each appearance of the word *carnal*. By the use of one unique Greek word “*sarkinos*” (translated *carnal*) in two distinct forms, first “*sarkinois*” (v.1), then “*sarkikoi*” (v.3), Paul distinguishes between those believers who are saved by the Spirit but are still in the flesh as all men are (v.1) and those believers who are allowing the flesh to rule their lives, rather than the Spirit of God. The first are those who are naturally made of flesh, the second are those who have allowed themselves to be refitted to the flesh.

What were the results of this choice of the Corinthian believers to be refitted to the flesh, after being severed from it in salvation? (1 Cor. 3:2-3). _____

Paul declared that the sad results of *carnal* (*sarkikoi*) believers was *an inability to understand the real meat of God’s Word and a bondage to the same sins as an unbeliever*.

Re-read Romans 7:14. Paul is making use of the first form of the same word “*sarkinois*” (albeit in the singular). Paul is indicating that although severed from the sin nature at salvation, believers are still in the flesh and that sin nature is still present to rear its ugly face. This is the pattern of life for the believer, and the source of our New Rivalry.

Romans

14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.

15 For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do.

16 If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good.

17 But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.

1 Cor. 3:1 ¶ And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ.

2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able;

3 for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?

...although severed from the sin nature at salvation, believers are still in the flesh and that sin nature is still present to rear its ugly face

ALL THINGS NEW

Read Romans 7:15-20 and answer the following questions.

Because of the presence of the sin nature in Paul's life, what conflict did he continually experience?

Paul found that there was a perpetual conflict between what he did and what he wanted to do. *The things he often did he knew he should not do and the things he knew he should do he often did not do.* Does this experience seem familiar to you? Comment: _____

What did Paul say this conflict confirmed in his life? (v. 16, v. 20). _____

Paul's conflict confirmed two things, first *that the law of God was still good* because it continued to reveal sin, and second *that the old sin nature was still present.*

Re-read verse 18 and underline the phrase that indicates Paul's conflict. In this verse Paul is simply stating that as long as a believer operates "in the flesh" he or she may desire to do right as a believer but will never find the power to do right. All the knowledge of God's law distinguishing God's Holy nature will never empower even a believer to practice righteousness. The law is still no means of righteousness, even after salvation.

Take time to honestly examine your understanding of "life in Christ." Is it reduced to a list of do's and don'ts? Is it marked with the frustration of wanting to do right but continually failing to do so?

A "life in Christ" measured by do's and don'ts is a life operating in the flesh. This is a life that can easily move from "sarkinois" to "sarkikoi," from being in the flesh as all men are and allowing life to be refitted for the flesh like the Corinthians.

How has God spoken to you in today's study? _____

Rom. 7:15 For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do.

16 If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good.

17 But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.

18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.

19 For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice.

20 Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.

A "life in Christ" measured by do's and don'ts is a life operating in the flesh. This is a life that can easily move from "sarkinois" to "sarkikoi," from being in the flesh as all men are and allowing life to be refitted for the flesh

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 5

The Reality of New Rivalry

Paul does not leave the believer in a state of confused defeat. Having demonstrated the presence of the sin nature in the believer, Paul goes on to state the principle of the New Rivalry.

Read Romans 7:20-25 and answer the following questions:

What is Paul's desire? (v. 21). _____

From where does this desire come? (v. 22). _____

What does Paul often experience instead of his desire? (v. 20). _____

How does Paul describe this contrast of desire and performance? (v.23). _____

Paul began his dialogue regarding the New Rivalry with the link of the law of God. Now he shares with the reader that he has discovered another law working within. Paul desires *to do good*. He knows this desire comes *from the inner man*. However, Paul often experiences *doing what he does not desire to do*. Paul describes this contrast as a *war*.

Read 1 Peter 1:3-4. Peter here describes the uniqueness of "life in Christ." Peter refers to God's great promises to each believer. Because of these promises of what does every believer partake? (v. 4). _____

Peter states that every believer *partakes of God's divine nature*. It is this that Paul is referring to when he says that he desires to do good out of the inner man. **Because every believer still has the sin nature present, and also has partaken of God's divine nature, there is a continual spiritual warfare within every believer. This is the New Rivalry.** The new divine nature exists amidst a hostile, opposed environment. This can only result in conflict until the environment is change.

What does Paul say will remedy this state? (v. 24) _____

Rom. 7:20 Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.

21 I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good.

22 For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man.

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

25 I thank God---through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

2 Peter 1:3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

ALL THINGS NEW

Paul states that *only deliverance from this body* will remedy this state. This is the believer's hope of glory. Read 1 John 3:2-3 for a quick reminder of this hope.

According to 1 John 3:2, when will the completion of this remedy Paul referred to take place? _____

What effect should this hope of glory have on every believer? (v.3). _____

Re-read Romans 7:24-25. Paul describes this present state of warfare a misery compared to the glory of being delivered through Christ. He then summarizes this warfare which operates in the believer as a New Rivalry. Circle the phrase in verse 25 that indicates a continued warfare.

The believer should not be surprised at the ever present conflict of the divine nature with the old nature. Paul, using the link of the law, demonstrates that the old nature is still present within the believer, but a new, divine nature is also present. Because the old nature has been severed from controlling influence by the believer's death to self in Christ's death, the front line of this spiritual warfare is not just in 'desiring' to do good and right, but in the power 'to choose' to do good and right. Paul has explained that as long as the believer operates in the flesh, such power of choice will escape grasp. For this reason Paul goes on to explain the New Resource – walking in the Spirit - Romans 8. This is our next study.

1. What is the New Rivalry that every believer will experience? _____
 2. How long will this state of conflict last in the believer's life? _____
 3. Where is the front line of this spiritual battlefield? _____
 4. What is the danger every believer faces in this battle? _____
-

How has God spoken to you through today's study?

Answers: 1. *conflict between the old nature and the divine nature.* 2. *until Christ delivers the believer from this body.* 3. *the power of choice,* 4. *operating in the flesh in contrast to walking in the spirit.*

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Rom. 7:24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

25 I thank God---through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

the front line of this spiritual warfare is not in desiring to do good and right, but in the power to choose to do good and right

ALL THINGS NEW

Part Five

Day 1

So far in our study of “All Things New” from Romans 6-8 we have discovered that the believer has a New Relationship characterized by the Word _____,

a New Responsibility characterized by _____,

a New Release characterized by _____,

and a New Rivalry described as _____.

Paul’s point in these chapters is that justification by faith is simply one facet of regeneration. The true believer is not only crucified with Christ (Christ’s death substituted for sin’s death-judgment), but he has been *raised* to new life. The sin nature has been severed from control so that the believer is able to engage in *servanthood* for Christ because of the new-found *freedom* of betrothal. Although the old sin nature is still present and presents a constant state of *spiritual warfare* Paul goes on to share the believer’s New Resource – God’s Holy Spirit, by whom believers can walk in victory.

The New Resource – The Holy Spirit

Read Romans 8, identify each title or inferred task of The Holy Spirit along with the references and express what this means to you as you understand each title or task.

Spirit of life – v.2 – it is God’s Spirit that has set me free from the death principle of the sin nature

Romans 8

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 ¶ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. 12 Therefore, brethren, 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. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "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 joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; 21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. 23 Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 2

Yesterday's examination of the titles and tasks of the Holy Spirit pointed to the unique privilege of every believer to have a New Resource for living – the ministry and work of the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit. While Romans 6 and 7 focussed on freedom with an ongoing battle, Romans 8 focuses on freedom and the assured victory. This victory is assured first because of the transforming work of the Spirit.

The Spirit of Transformation

Read Romans 8:1-4 and answer the following questions.

From what is the believer free according to verse 1?

From what is the believer free in verse 2?

The believer's freedom from *condemnation* and from *the law of sin and death* is a result of what **New Law** (verse 2)?

In continuing with the term "law" Paul is illustrating that a principle of operation is the focus. He spoke of the law of sin and death. Earlier Paul demonstrated that due to the sin nature of man, the law or operating principle within was sin and death. In other words, Paul proved that the controlling power in an unbeliever's life was sin resulting in separation from God – death. Now, with the same emphasis, Paul shows that the Holy Spirit brings another operating principle to the believer. Paul is saying that with salvation, there is another controlling power resident in the believer's life, opposite to sin and death, this is the *Law of the Spirit*.

Because of the Law of the Spirit, there is no condemnation for sin (verse 1) and there is no more control by sin (verse 2). According to verses 3 and 4, what else has the Law of the Spirit changed in a believer's life?

By condemning sin in the flesh, the Spirit of God *enables the believer to fulfill the righteous requirement of the law*. This is a profound statement. In Romans 7, Paul explained that it was impossible to meet the requirements of the law as long as a believer operated in the flesh. Here Paul is explaining that by the Holy Spirit, the demands of

Romans 8:1 ¶ There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

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

3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,

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

with salvation, there is another controlling power resident in the believer's life, opposite to sin and death, this is the Law of the Spirit..

ALL THINGS NEW

the Law (God’s moral law) can be realized in life. This is not a contradiction by Paul but a demonstration of the absolute and radical change in life when salvation secures “All Things New.”

Paul defines the key to this whole New experience of living by the controlling power (law) of the Spirit as the difference between two kinds of walk. What are these two walks? (verse 4). _____

The word translated “walk” is a compound word combining the Greek preposition “per-ee” meaning “concerning, on account of, about,” with “pat-eh'-o” meaning “to tread, to trample, crush with the feet, to advance by setting foot upon.” The word obviously means to advance by stepping with the feet, but it also has another unique meaning. Read the verses in the right column and write out a definition for the other meaning of “walk.”

A synonym for “walk” is ‘live.’ Your definition should include the idea of conducting one’s life or following a particular pattern of conduct. The believer can either walk in the flesh – live life in the pattern of the flesh (the old sin nature), or walk in the Spirit – live life in the pattern and influence of the Holy Spirit.

Read Galatians 5:19 & 22. How does Paul describe accomplishment in the flesh with what the Spirit produces in the life? _____

A “walk” is not a “work”. Any labour of the flesh is self-effort. Praise God, a Walk in the Spirit is the simplicity of following in trust. This is why Paul contrasts the “works” of the flesh with the “fruit” of the Spirit. (Gal. 5:19, 22). To walk implies subjection. Walking after the flesh implies I yield to the dictates of the flesh. Where does Paul state that leads in Rom. 8:5-6? _____

Tomorrow we will examine more closely what it means to “Walk in the Spirit.” For now, take time to examine your life’s walk. Is it characterized by the fruit of the Spirit or the works of the flesh? Spend time talking to God about this. Ask Him to help you understand what it means to “Walk in the Spirit.”

Mark 7:5 Then the Pharisees and scribes asked Him, "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?"

John 8:12 ¶ Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

Acts 21:21 "but they have been informed about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs.

Romans 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 5:2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

Ephesians 5:15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,

Philippians 3:16 Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.

Gal. 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Rom. 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 3

Many Christians have mistaken what it means to “Walk in the Spirit.” Some have sought to define this as entirely experiential through special gifts, while others have reduced this to a set of rules to live by. God’s Word defines “Walking in the Spirit” as something simple and normal for all believers.

As stated yesterday, a walk is not a work, rather it is a **TRUSTED FOLLOWING, which begins with believing that the Spirit is in my life.** According to Romans 8: 9 & 11, where is the Spirit of God?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:17-19. How is the body of a believer described (v. 19)? _____

The Spirit of God *dwells within every believer* as a result of the baptism of the Spirit which takes place at salvation (see pages 4-6 of this study for review). Even the carnally-minded church of Corinth was reminded that *their bodies were the temple of the Holy Ghost residing within.*

If the Holy Spirit is not dwelling in a person, what does Paul say about belonging to Christ? (Romans 8:9).

Do you believe that God’s Spirit dwells within you as a believer, regardless of your “state” of following Christ?

Walking in the Spirit **IMPLIES SUBJECTION, which means I must yield my life in obedience to Him.**

According to Romans 8:14, how does a believer obey the Spirit? _____

What does David say about how a believer is led by God? (Psalm 119:105) _____

According to John 16 and 1 John 2:27, what is the relationship of the Spirit in a believer and the Word of God? _____

Scripture teaches that a believer is *led* into obedience as the Holy Spirit *guides through the Word of God.* The Holy Spirit is *God’s resident teacher* of truth. **To walk in the Spirit is to submit to God’s leading as the Holy Ghost directs through God’s Word.**

What is the leading of the Spirit compared to in Ephesians 5:18? _____

Rom. 8:9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you

1 Corinthians 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. 18 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. 19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

Rom. 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

Psalms 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

1 John 2:27 But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

ALL THINGS NEW

Walking in the spirit **IMPLIES CONTROL**. Paul compares being led by the Spirit to being drunk with wine. The believer is to simply let God's Spirit control you (the way alcohol naturally controls when over-consumed). Read Ephesians 5:18-19 along with Colossians 3:16. Notice the similar responses in worship stated at the end of each reference. Circle the words in each text that precipitate this expression of worship. **The way to the Spirit's control is by letting God's Word dwell meaningfully in our lives** (the result of being filled with the Spirit and filled with the Word are paralleled in meaningful worship, the one is equal to the other).

Read the references to the right and write in your own words the meaning of each text.

Gal. 5:25 _____

Eph. 4:30 _____

1 Thess. 5:19 _____

Walking in the Spirit **IMPLIES SENSITIVITY**. These verses indicate just how simple Walking in the Spirit is. Paul declares walking in the Spirit to be a matter of opportunity. If our new life results from the residing Spirit, then our walk also results from the residing Spirit. The believer must not grieve the indwelling Spirit nor quench His leading by sin. Walking in the Spirit is the natural outcome of a believer who studies and obeys God's Word. Here the Spirit reveals sin, directs life, strengthens faith, and rejoices the heart. The active leading of the Holy Spirit through the word is the normal experience of the believer. Walking in the Spirit is not necessarily an euphoric experience of worship, nor is it a compliance to a given set of rules. Walking in the Spirit **is the regular, responsive relationship of a believer to the Holy Spirit's guiding through the Word of God.**

What does Paul say are the results of Walking in the Spirit? (Galatians 5:16) _____

What does Paul say are the results of Walking according to the Spirit? (Romans 8:4) _____

How has God spoken to you through today's study?

Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Galatians 5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

1 Thessalonians 5:19 Quench not the Spirit.

*Walking in the Spirit
is the regular,
responsive relationship
of a believer to the
Holy Spirit's guiding
through the Word of
God.*

Gal. 5:16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Rom. 8:4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 4

According to Romans 8, the privilege of the believer's New Resource of God's indwelling Spirit to guide and empower life is dependant upon "Walking in the Spirit." Write out in your own words, based upon yesterday's study, what it means to "Walk in the Spirit."

Read Romans 8:1-14. In essence, God's New Resource of His Holy Spirit is a Spirit of Transformation. As the believer Walks in the Spirit, a New Law is evidenced in life. This law or operating principle is called _____ (v. 2).

What two things is the believer free from according to verses 1-2? (See page 40 for review).

As the *law of the Spirit* operates (or as the believer Walks in the Spirit) a transformation in life takes place. What does Paul say is one of the first areas of transformation in a believers life? (v. 5-7). _____
By inference, what does Paul say becomes the ability of the believer who is "in the Spirit?" (V. 8-9). _____

According to verse 13, what does Paul say can be the believer's experience "by the Spirit?" _____

Paul has given reference to a complete transformation of life by the operating principle of the indwelling Spirit of God. He states that *the mind* of a believer is transformed; that the believer can *please God*, (referring to a transformation of motive), and Paul states that by the Spirit a believer can *put to death the deeds of the body*.

How does Paul describe the transformation of the mind? (v.6).

From _____

To _____

Romans 8

1 ¶ There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 ¶ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. 12 Therefore, brethren, 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. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

*Paul has given reference
to a complete
transformation of life by
the operating principle of
the indwelling Spirit of
God*

ALL THINGS NEW

In Part Four we discovered that **the front line of spiritual warfare is not the struggle of the will but the struggle of choice.** This is a power struggle for control of the mind. The will follows the mind. By reference to the term flesh (carnal) Paul is addressing the dilemma of 7:14 (page 34 in our study) whereby the sin nature raises its ugly head to attempt to take over the mind. Paul assures the believer of continued severance from carnal (fleshly) mindedness by Walking in the Spirit.

From what does Paul say the believer's transformation comes in Romans 12:2?

What does Paul indicate to be the foundation of "putting off the old and being renewed in the spirit of your mind" in Ephesians 4:20-23?

Paul indicates that the believer's transformation comes *by the renewing of the mind.* The foundation of that renewing is *hearing Him and being taught His truth by Him.*

Who did Jesus say would teach His truth in John 16:13?

Every believer must realize the vital importance of being taught by God through His declared truth- the Bible. We have seen that to Walk in the Spirit is to regularly respond to the Holy Spirit's guidance and teaching through the Word. We have seen that the transformation of life comes by the Spirit renewing the mind through the Truth.

What did Jesus say about the importance of God's Word in Matthew 4:4? _____

Seeing both the Walk in the Spirit and the Renewing of the Mind dependant upon the Spirit's ministry through God's Word, is it any wonder that Jesus made living by the Word of God as vitally important as physical food? This is not a New Testament truth, but the critical need of God's people throughout history.

Read Joshua 1:8 and evaluate your own commitment to God's Word. Is it a serious commitment of time and effort? _____

In concluding today's study, copy out Joshua 1:8-9 on a small "business card" and commit it to memory.

Rom. 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Eph. 4:20 But you have not so learned Christ, 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: 22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

John 16:13 "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come .

Matt. 4:4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

Josh. 1:8 "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 5

The transformation of life by the indwelling Holy Spirit (the believer's New Resource), begins with the mind (Romans 8:5-7). How is this accomplished in a believer's life? _____

As the Holy Spirit *renews the mind through the teaching and applying of God's Word*, a transformation of the heart also takes place. Read Romans 8:8 and write out what this means to someone who is Walking in the Spirit.

If to be 'in the flesh' means a person cannot please God, then to 'Walk in the Spirit' *means a person can please God*.

What does Hebrews 11:6 say about pleasing God?

As the whole of Hebrews 11 indicates, *pleasing God is an expression of faith* that begins with coming to God and following after God. Such a desire is not within natural man as Paul indicates in Romans 3:11 "There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God." However, by the operating principle of the indwelling Spirit, even a man's motives are transformed, so that a believer desires after the desires of God.

Read Psalm 119:10-11 and circle the words that reflect the Psalmist's desire after God. Underline the words that relate even this renewed desire for God to His Word.

How does God describe this transformation of motive in Ezekiel 36:26? _____

God's transforming Spirit, which indwells every believer, wins the battle of choice by the renewing of the mind and settles the struggle of the will by giving a *new heart*. The ministry of the Spirit through the Word accomplishes all this. What are the results of the transformation of the mind and the motives according to Romans 8:9-13?

By Walking in the Spirit the mind and motives are transformed. As well, the believer finds *victory over the deeds of the flesh*. (v. 13). This is the transformation of our "members" (mortal bodies). When the power of choice is won and the direction of the heart is changed, the influence of the old nature, which was manifested in pleasures of the flesh, is truly gone. This, says Paul, is **life led by the Spirit**. (v. 14).

Rom. 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

Rom. 8: 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Heb. 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Psalm 119:10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. 11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Ezekiel 36:26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

Rom. 8:9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 ¶ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. 12 Therefore, brethren, 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.

ALL THINGS NEW

Re-read Romans 12:1-2. Identify the phrases which relate to the mind, the motives, and the members:

The mind: _____

The motives _____

The members _____

According to this passage, what role does the believer have in the ministry of God's Spirit to transform a life?

The New Resource for the believer is the indwelling Holy Spirit. For the Christian, God's Holy Spirit is first the Spirit of Transformation. This transformation is complete as indicated in Romans 8 and repeated in Romans 12:1-2. God transforms the mind (*the renewing of the mind*), God transforms the motives (*proving the perfect will of God*), and God transforms the members (*bodies a living sacrifice*).

In Romans 8, the believer's transformation is a matter of what? (v.2, 4) _____

What appeal does Paul make in Romans 12:1-2, in order for transformation to take place? _____

The Christian is not exempt from responsibility in the transformation of life by the Spirit. He/she is called to *Walk in the Spirit.* Paul appeals to the believers to *present themselves as sacrifices to God.* These are choices dependant upon the successful battle of the mind. How does God secure the victory of that battle according to our study? (Hint: Joshua 1:8).

As a review, re-read Romans 8:1-14 and underline all the phrases that describe the ministry of God's Transforming Spirit. (Hint: look for words like "walk", "live", "life", "led").

How has God spoken to you through this study?

Are there any significant changes to be made in your life as a result of this study? _____

Rom. 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Romans 8

1 ¶ There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 ¶ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. 12 Therefore, brethren, 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. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

ALL THINGS NEW

Part Six

Day 1

The ceiling of the Sistine Chapel is one of the greatest artistic triumphs in history. From 1508 to 1512, the artist Michelangelo lay on his back and painted the Fall and the Flood.

But Michelangelo's magnificent art started to fade almost immediately. Within a century of completing his work, no one remembered what his original frescoes had really looked like. Painter Biagio Biagetti described it in 1936: "We see the colours of the Sistine ceiling as if through smoked glass."

In 1981 a scaffold was erected to clean the frescoes that adorn the chapel. With a special solution, Fabrizio Mancinelli and Gianluigi Colalucci gently washed a small corner of the painting.

They invited art experts to examine the work. The result was stunning. No one had imagined that beneath centuries of grime lay such vibrant colours. This was not the Michelangelo known by art critics. That artist was the master of form, his paintings resembling sculpture more than painting. This "new" artist was also the master of colour—azure, green, rose, and lavender of amazing nuance.

Their success prompted the restoration of the entire ceiling. The task was completed on December 31, 1989. It had taken twice as long to clean the ceiling as the artist had needed to paint it. But the result was breathtaking. For the first time in nearly 500 years, people viewed this masterpiece the way it was intended, in all of its colour and beauty.

God's intention in salvation is more than to just ensure heaven after death. God intends to restore the believer to the original state of Adam, a true image of God Himself. As long as the believer is in the flesh (body), this restoration will never be perfect; however, through the divine process called sanctification, the believer who walks in the Spirit, affords God the opportunity to "remove the dust of the world" and show the true hues of God's own character. This process is guaranteed because of the indwelling Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of Transformation.

The Spirit of Transformation

Read Romans 8:1-14 again. What is the new operating principle in a believer's life called?

What does verse 1 say about the believer and sin?

Romans 8

1 ¶ There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

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

3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,

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

5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

10 ¶ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

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

12 Therefore, brethren, 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.

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

*God intends to restore
the believer to the
original state of Adam, a
true image of God
Himself.*

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 2

"I could tell you adventures beginning from this morning," said Alice in Alice in Wonderland, "but it's no use going back to yesterday, because I was a different person then." This is the reality of the Christian life. Because of the indwelling Spirit of Transformation, the believer is operating by the principle of a **New Law** – “**The Law of the Spirit**” (verse 1) The believer is also operating by the principle of a **New Lord** – “**Christ in You**” (verse 10).

One of the great themes of the New Testament is “Christ in You.” Read the texts to the right and circle each reference to Christ in the believer.

God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit are One. Anyone who has the Spirit in them has the Father and the Son in them as well. Jesus made this clear on two separate occasions.

How did Jesus share this truth in John 14:9?

How did Jesus share this truth in John 17: 21

Although the Father, the Son and the Spirit are one, the significance of being told that Christ is in the believer must not be overlooked. As much as the indwelling Spirit transforms the believer, the indwelling Christ guarantees His Lordship. Christ is King. The term Christ means ‘Messiah,’ or ‘the anointed one’ (anointed king).

What place has Christ according to Psalm 89:27?

What place does Christ occupy according to Ephesians 1:20?

Describe in your own words the Lordship of Christ as indicated in Ephesians 1:21: _____

John 14:20 "At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

John 15:4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

John 17:21 "that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

Romans 8:10 ¶ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? ----unless indeed you are disqualified

John 14: 8 Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." 9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. 11 "Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

John 17:20 ¶ "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 "that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 "And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: 23 "I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

Psalms 89:27 Also I will make him My firstborn, The highest of the kings of the earth.

Ephesians 1:20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

ALL THINGS NEW

In what particular way is the Lordship of Christ related to the church in Ephesians 1:22? _____

In what way are all authorities related to Christ's Lordship according to 1 Peter 3:22. _____

In discovering "All Things New" from Romans 6-8, there is an evident spiritual battle, a new rivalry: the law of the flesh at war with the law of the spirit. By showing that the believer has Christ within, the Lordship of Christ in the life is guaranteed. Christ is the Lord of the universe. All power bows to Him. He sits at the right hand of the Father, the universe is His footstool, therefore no power on earth nor in the believer, can overpower Him. Victory is assured.

Again, the question must be asked, "What is the believer's responsibility" in the assurance of victory?

Read Philippians 2:5-11. This passage declares the exaltation of Christ above all names and points to the fact that although all men have not yet acknowledged the Lordship of Christ, they will some day bow. Apart from this promise, God is indicating the steps of Christ leading to His exaltation. Before Christ was exalted, He humbled Himself. According to this text, what two steps of humility did Jesus take?

Before Christ was exalted, He humbled himself in *first becoming a man*, and secondly, in *dying on the cross*. Here God calls the believer to the same attitude that was evident in Christ. This is the attitude of _____.

Christ assumes Lordship of the believer's life as each believer follows His steps of *humility by fully surrendering to the Father's will*. As each believer dies to self-will in the same manner that Christ died to self-will and as each believer yields to God's will in the same manner that Christ yielded to His Father's will, Christ will assume reign.

Is there any area of your life left un-surrendered to God?
Comment: _____

How has God spoken to you regarding Christ's Lordship in your life? _____

Ephesians 1:22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,

1 Peter 3:22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

Christ assumes Lordship of the believer's life as each believer follows His steps of humility by fully surrendering to the father's will

Phil. 2:5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

As each believer dies to self-will in the same manner that Christ died to self will, as each believer yields to God's will in the same manner that Christ yielded to His Father's will, Christ will assume reign.

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 3

Clarence Jordan made a fascinating paraphrase of Paul's letters called The Cotton Patch Version. His rendering of Romans 12:2 is this: "And don't let the present age keep you in its cocoon. Instead metamorphose into the new mind." That's exactly what Paul was saying, and the implied illustration of the lowly caterpillar turning into the lovely butterfly fits perfectly. This is the reality of a **New Lord – “Christ in You.”**

Control of Mind

In discovering “All Things New” from Romans 6-8, there is an evident spiritual battle, a new rivalry: the law of the flesh at war with the law of the spirit. The power of choice was discovered to be the front line of that battle. By showing that the believer has Christ within, the Lordship of Christ in the life is guaranteed.

Read Romans 8:5-7. On what do those who live according to the flesh set their minds?

How does this differ from those who live according to the Spirit? _____

As Christ is allowed to assume Lordship of life, He takes control of the mind, focussing it on the “*things of the spirit.*” How does Paul describe this controlling of the mind in Romans 12:2? _____

There is a constant battle for the believer’s mind. Here is where the power of choice is fought. Here is where Satan desires to rule, here is where the world persuades, here is where the old nature wants to rear its ugly head. Yet here is where Christ’s rule of Lordship begins. As the believer maintains regular, responsive relationship to the Holy Spirit’s guiding through the Word of God the mind is reprogrammed to think the values, the principles, the aspirations and the purposes of God. Paul describes this as the *being transformed by the renewing of the mind.* The power of choice is won as the mind is transformed to think on the things of the spirit.

How did Paul describe those things to meditate on in Philippians 4:8? _____

Romans 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

Romans 12:1 ¶ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy---- meditate on these things.

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Control of the Motives

What does Paul say about those who are in the flesh in Romans 8:8? _____

In contrast, what does Romans 8:8 imply about those that are in the Spirit?

Pleasing God speaks to our motives in life. Those who are in the flesh *cannot please God*, and by implication, those who are in the Spirit *can please God*.

The Bible states that Enoch pleased God. According to Hebrews 11:5-6, what is the key ingredient for pleasing God? _____

According to Matthew 3:16-17, what was the occasion that prompted God the Father to say allowed that He was pleased with His Son? _____

Enoch pleased God because he lived by *faith*. God stated His pleasure in His Son on the occasion of *the baptism of Jesus*. A life of faith in God pleases God. Romans speaks significantly about faith. Read Romans 4:12, 5:1, and 5:2 and circle the phrases speaking of faith. Paul pointed to *the walk of faith, justification by faith*, and *access by faith*. In setting forth the doctrine of salvation Paul spoke much of faith. In laying a foundation for sanctification, Paul also pointed to faith (walk, access).

As believers **walk** in the Spirit (maintain regular, responsive relationship to the Holy Spirit's guiding through the Word of God), they **walk** in faith, and Christ assumes Lordship of both mind and motives. He not only reprogrammes the mind, He also changes the heart. The believer's perspective on life is changed and the believer's pursuit in life is changed.

Spend time in prayer asking God to assist you in evaluating your mind's focus and the true motives of your life. Be honest before God. Are you "conformed to the world" or are you being "transformed by the renewing of your mind"? Can you can truly say "Christ is Lord of my thoughts and my ambitions."

Write out a meaningful prayer that expresses how God has spoken to you in today's study.

Romans 8:8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

*Pleasing God speaks
to our motives in life*

Heb. 11:5 By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, "and was not found, because God had taken him"; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God. 6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Matt. 3:16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: 17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Romans 4:12 And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.

Romans 5:1 ¶ Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: Romans 5:2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

*As Christ assumes Lordship of
both mind and motives, He not
only reprogrammes the mind, He
also changes the heart. The
believer's perspective on life is
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life is changed.*

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 4

We have discovered in our study that there is an ongoing spiritual warfare in the believer's life. What is the essence of that warfare? (Romans 7:22-23, page 36).

As a result of the rivalry between the present *old nature* (being in the flesh) and the present *divine nature* (transformation of the indwelling Spirit) a battle for control of the body is imminent. Paul declares that Christ in the believer assures Lordship here as well.

Control of the Members

According to Romans 8:10, what is the status of the power of the body because Christ is in the believer?

What does the indwelling Spirit guarantee regarding the believer's body (verse 11).

In the same manner in which Christ died and was raised to life, the believer, in trusting Christ as Saviour, is severed from the power of the body (the body serving sin is dead) and is raised to newness of life (the body now serving righteousness).

Upon what expression of divine power does Paul rest this truth? (verse 11). _____

The Lordship of Christ over mind, motive and members (body) hinges entirely on the power of God in *raising Christ from the dead*. The bodily resurrection of Christ is the central theme of His Lordship. Christ surrendered His life in faith to God and died. The power of the Spirit raised Christ to life, securing His Lordship. The same Spirit, indwelling the believer, gives new life by the same divine power.

According to verse 13, what is the responsibility of the believer in victory over the members of the body?

Once again, the believer is responsible to *live by the spirit* or maintain regular, responsive relationship to the Holy Spirit's guiding through the Word of God. In doing so, Christ's Lordship over the battle of the flesh is assured and the believer finds power to put to death the deeds of the flesh.

Romans 7:22 For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

Romans 8:10 ¶ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. 12 Therefore, brethren, 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.

ALL THINGS NEW

Read Galatians 5:19-21 to identify the deeds or works of the flesh. What does Paul here say about those who practice such works?

Paul here used a unique word translated “**practice**” (NKJV). This word means “to exercise, practise, to be busy with, carry on, to undertake” and points to the manner of life and conduct of a person. Paul simply states that anyone whose life is perpetually patterned toward such works of the flesh *will not inherit the kingdom*. He is not saying that a person will lose salvation as scripture denies that possibility. Paul is saying that such a person has never been saved. Salvation guarantees the transformation of life, albeit sometimes slow because of a reluctance to walk in the Spirit. Nevertheless, because of the Spirit’s indwelling, and because of Christ’s indwelling, the process of a complete change is assured.

Author, pastor, and onetime atheist Lee Strobel says:
“How can I tell you the difference God has made in my life? My daughter, Allison, was 5 years old when I became a follower of Jesus, and all she had known in those five years was a dad who was profane and angry. I remember I came home one night and kicked a hole in the living room wall just out of anger with life. I am ashamed to think of the times Allison hid in her room to get away from me. Five months after I gave my life to Jesus Christ, that little girl went to my wife and said, “Mommy, I want God to do for me what He’s done for Daddy.” At age 5! What was she saying? She’d never studied the archaeological evidence [regarding the truth of the Bible]. All she knew was her dad used to be this way: hard to live with. But more and more her dad is becoming this way. And if that is what God does to people, then sign her up. At age 5 she gave her life to Jesus.
God changed my family. He changed my world. He changed my eternity.”

Re-read Galatians 5:19-23 in contrast to verses 22-23. What did Paul state the responsibility of the believer was in Galatians 5:25? _____

Take time to evaluate the perpetual pattern of your life. If you are uncertain about the genuineness of your salvation based upon the pattern of your life, return to page 33, paragraph 3, and affirm God’s salvation through prayer.

If God is evidencing change in your life, take time to praise Him for His resident power.

Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Salvation guarantees the transformation of life, albeit sometimes slow because of a reluctance to walk in the spirit. Nevertheless, because of the Spirit’s indwelling, and because of Christ’s indwelling, the process of a complete change is assured.

ALL THINGS NEW

Day 5

David was described as a man after God's own heart. He knew firsthand what it meant to walk with God. Psalm 23, one of the most comforting passages of scripture, expresses the wonder and beauty of walking with God.

Read Psalm 23 and circle all the references to God's special leading and care.

Paul makes reference to the transforming power of the indwelling Spirit, the believer's New Resource. The Spirit of Transformation guarantees **A New Law – "law of the spirit," a New Lord – "Christ in you," and a New Leading.**

The New Leading

Read Romans 8:14-17 and answer the following questions.

How does God describe those led by the Spirit (v. 14)?

From what are those led by the Spirit delivered (v. 15)?

What privilege do all believer's have by the Spirit(v. 15)?

What does this privilege permit those led by the spirit to do (v.15)? _____

How does the Spirit uniquely minister to those led by the Spirit (V.16)? _____

God's indwelling Spirit brings a richness of life through His New Leading. God describes those so led as *his own children*. This is an expression of guaranteed love and care. In this passage God relates this love and care in terms of deliverance from *bondage* by the privilege of *adoption*.

How does this expression of "children of God" differ from that of John 1:12-13? _____

In John 1:12-13, God's emphasis is on becoming children of God *by the miracle of new birth*. This is the believer's true position, belonging by spiritual birth to God's family. In Romans 8, God is emphasizing His choice of adopting the believer out of bondage to sin and into His blessed family. This is the believer's true privilege.

Psalm 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.
- 3 He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

Romans 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "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 joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

God's indwelling Spirit brings a richness of life through His New Leading. God describes those so led as his own children. This is an expression of guaranteed love and care.

ALL THINGS NEW

This privilege of adoption permits the believer to approach God in the most intimate way as suggested by the words "Abba Father." This phrase is a combination of the word "Father" in two languages, Aramaic and Greek.

On what occasion did Jesus address God in prayer with "Abba Father"? (See Mark 14:32-36). _____

In Jesus' greatest hour of need, *as He surrendered His will to the Father's will before the cross of Calvary*, Jesus prayed "Abba Father." Jesus cried out to God three times in Gethsemane, each time with surrendered will but agony of spirit. According to Luke 22:41-43, how did God answer Jesus' prayer? _____

Although the suffering of the cross was determined before the world began and could not be altered, God the Father heard Jesus cry and *sent a ministering angel to strengthen Him*.

How does Psalm 23 parallel this ministry of God?

It is the privilege of every believer to call upon God in the intimacy of a loving, caring Father Who will always hear His child.

Read Romans 8:16-39 for a complete picture of the leading of the Spirit.

Where the Spirit Leads:

... to a testimony of relationship (v. 16)
Those who are led by the Spirit are also ministered to by the Spirit in a unique way. To such, God's indwelling Spirit affirms the Father/child relationship, *bearing witness with our spirit that we are the children of God*.

... to a perseverance of hope (v.18-25)
Those led by the Spirit discover a sense of assured future glory. Although circumstances in this life may become a struggle due to the curse of sin upon all creation, God's Spirit brings renewed hope each day in the assurance of greater things to come.

Mark 14:32 ¶ Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, "Sit here while I pray."

33 And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed.

34 Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch."

35 He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him.

36 And He said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will."

Luke 22:41 And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed,

42 saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." 43 Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him

Romans 8:16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 ¶ and if children, then heirs----heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; 21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. 23 Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. 24 For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

ALL THINGS NEW

Where the Spirit leads

... to an affirmation of purpose (v. 26-30)

Those led by the Spirit are assisted in prayer by the personal intercession of the Spirit. As He affirms the goodness of God in all circumstances, the believer grows in a sense of divine purpose. The assurance of being a part of God's great plan which began before the world brings the confidence to trust God through prayer in all things.

... to an assurance of God's care (v. 31-32)

Those who are led by the Spirit enjoy an understanding of God's gracious benefits as the objects of God's purchased possession. The impression of the cost of that purchase is burned into the heart of the believer to bear testimony to the extent that God will go to provide all things.

... to an appreciation of God's forgiveness (v. 33-34)

Those led by the Spirit are impressed in mind and heart of their complete pardon. They come to sense that the Son Himself, sitting at God's right hand is their defence. No charge can ever prevail against the intercession of the one who wears the marks of our acquittal.

... to an awareness of God's love (v. 35-39)

Those led by the Spirit know the secure arms of God's loving embrace. In any circumstances, under all burdens, through every trial, they know the secure and comforting hold of God's love.

Take time to write out a personal testimony of The Spirit's leading in each of these areas:

... to a testimony of relationship

... to a perseverance of hope

... to an affirmation of purpose

Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. 28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. 29 ¶ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. 31 ¶ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." 37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Those led by the Spirit know the secure arms of God's loving embrace. In any circumstances, under all burdens, through every trial, they know the secure and comforting hold of God's love.

ALL THINGS NEW

... to an assurance of God's care

... to an appreciation of God's forgiveness

... to an awareness of God's love

Review

In our study of "All Things New" from Romans 6-8 we have discovered that the believer has:

a New Relationship characterized by the word

a New Responsibility characterized by _____,

a New Release characterized by _____,

a New Rivalry described as _____,

and a New Resource described as _____.

How has this study influenced you in your Christian experience? What decisions has God constrained you to make?

NOTES

*Therefore, if anyone is
in Christ, he is a new
creation; old things
have passed away;
behold, all things have
become new.
2 Corinthians 5:17*