

"No Condemnation!"

It's time to declare Romans chapter 7 bankruptcy:

The law speaks: Sin verses obedience
The self roars: Mind verses flesh
The despair screams: Death verses life

The two possible realms of human existence:

The "sarx" which is the "sinful nature"

"It's all about me"

My world

My will

My strength

The "pneuma" which is the "Spirit"

"It's all about Jesus"

His kingdom

His will

His strength

God's great Romans chapter 8 bail-out plan:

Relief from the feelings of guilt
Deliverance from the reality of guilt

Living in the realm of the Spirit:

It is living in the grace of Christ

Salvation is already accomplished

It is living according to way of the Spirit

Getting the right mind-set

It is being controlled by the Spirit's power

Making obedience possible

It is being possessed by the presence of Christ

Becoming alive in Jesus

God has something better for me than a life of defeat:

The answer is not for me to try harder,
It is for me to choose to trust Him more!

Romans 8:1-11

8:1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, 4 in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; 7 the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. 8 Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

9 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. 10 But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. 11 And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

NIV



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