

CHAPTERS 5–8

The Hope
of the Gospel

ROMANS

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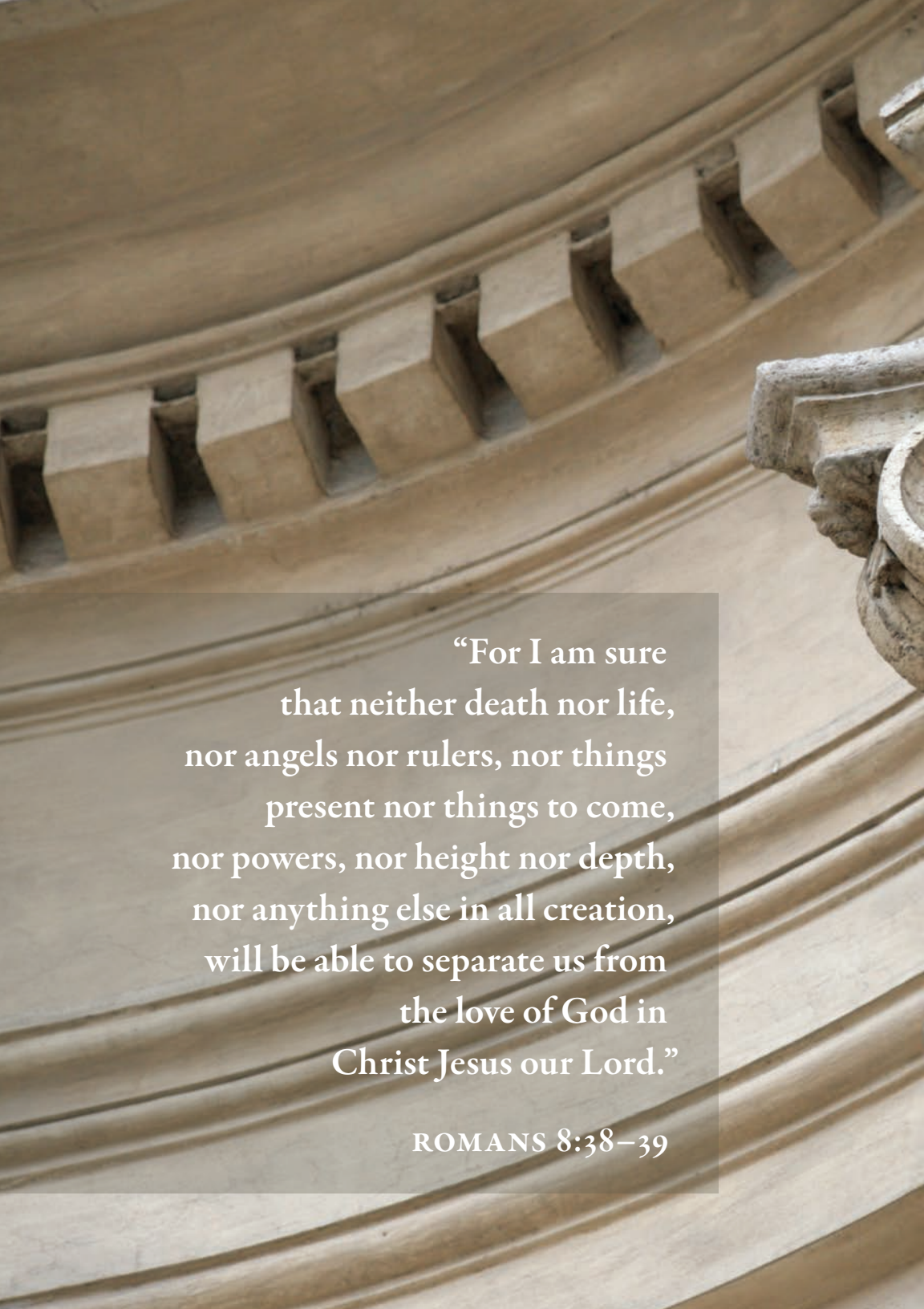


A GUIDE TO THE BOOK OF

Romans

PART TWO

The Hope of the Gospel



“For I am sure
that neither death nor life,
nor angels nor rulers, nor things
present nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from
the love of God in
Christ Jesus our Lord.”

ROMANS 8:38–39



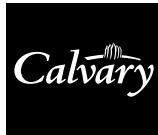
A GUIDE TO THE BOOK OF

Romans

PART TWO

The Hope of the Gospel

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WHY WE STUDY THE BIBLE

At Calvary Church, our mission is to be and to make authentic followers of Jesus Christ. We take seriously the responsibility to model living a life of obedience to Christ. Though none of us do it perfectly, that's our aim. At the same time, we desire to encourage others in obedience to Him as well. We believe we love God and others best when we are being and making disciples.

The primary way we fulfill our mission is studying and obeying the Scriptures. The Bible is a book about the Lord Jesus; it teaches us who He is and how we can know Him. It equips us for the good work of loving Him and serving Him. The Bible is the Word of God, living and active. God speaks directly through His Word.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

As a church family, we are pursuing an in-depth study of a book in the Bible called Romans. This is Part Two of *A Guide to the Book of Romans*, and it provides some tools to help you explore it and understand it. The guide can be used as a personal resource for you as an individual or as a resource for the entire family.

REVIEW AND INTRODUCTION

As we begin this guide, you'll find a brief review of the first four chapters of Romans. This summary of "The Heart of the Gospel" and the core theology found in chapters 1–4 provide the foundation as we move forward in Romans. Then we'll overview the upcoming next section of Romans, chapters 5–8. You'll see clearly the hope of the Gospel—hope for peace with God, freedom from sin, and a victorious new life in the Spirit.

DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

For each sermon that is preached during our study, we offer a devotional for you to read on your own or with your family. If possible, choose a time each

week to spend 10–15 minutes with the devotional. You'll find the Scripture passage to read, a brief explanation of the text, questions to ponder, and ways to apply these truths to your life. Spend time praying about it, and jot down notes of prayer and praise. Don't underestimate the impact that sharing the Word of God together can have on you, your spouse, and your kids!

SING & WORSHIP

Throughout history, many great hymns of the faith have been inspired by the foundational truths in the book of Romans. Songwriters today continue its message through inspiring lyrics and music. Each week you'll find a song suggestion with the devotions.

SERMON NOTES

Be sure to take notes each Sunday during the sermons from Romans. There is a note-taking page included every week. If you cannot be present one Sunday, go online at media.calvarychurch.com to listen to the sermon and take notes on your own.

MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE

Finally, we encourage you to memorize Scripture. It is God's Word and should be hidden in our hearts! There are memory verse cards in the back of the guide for selected verses from Romans, chapters 5–8. Punch out the cards and carry them with you, or display them where you'll see them often. Commit to memorizing God's Word!

JOIN THE JOURNEY

We're excited to study the book of Romans as a church family. If you missed any of Part One, *Romans: The Heart of the Gospel*, the audio and video messages are available online at media.calvarychurch.com. The boxed CD set may be purchased at Calvary Church in the Word Room bookstore.

May God bless you and your family from the pulpit, in your Life Group, and in your home as you use this guide to better know Him and His Word.

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The background of the entire page is a photograph of the interior of a grand cathedral. The ceiling is a complex, vaulted structure with a grid of ornate, gilded panels, each containing a circular medallion. Sunlight streams through several arched windows, creating a dramatic play of light and shadow. Below the ceiling, a large Latin inscription is visible on a frieze: "ET IN COLLEGIUM ROGAVI PRO". The architecture is highly detailed, with classical columns and decorative carvings.

CHAPTERS 1-4

The Heart of the Gospel

CHAPTERS 5-8

The Hope of the Gospel

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The Transformation of the Gospel

The Heart of the Gospel

IN PART ONE, WE LEARNED THAT ROMANS has as its profound theme the Gospel of God concerning our Lord Jesus Christ. So to know Romans is to understand the central doctrines of authentic Christianity. In the opening chapters of Romans, Paul explains that every one of us is under the condemnation of God and deserves His wrath. Paul first presents this serious picture before he explains that the power and the purpose of God revealed in the Gospel is the only way to deal with this deep problem of our sin.

Then Paul emphasizes that our justification before God is not based on anything we do but rather flows from the grace of God. So we are declared righteous before a holy God (justified) by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

Paul gives the Old Testament examples of Abraham and King David, who were justified by faith apart from anything they did. In this way, Paul is emphasizing that salvation is a gift of God and is received by us through faith.

*“For by grace you have been saved through faith.
And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,
not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”*

Ephesians 2:8–9

THEOLOGY OF CHAPTERS 1–4

Everyone is **guilty of sin**: the answer is **justification by faith**, whereby the sinner is declared not guilty.

Everyone is **under the power of sin**: the answer is **redemption**, whereby the believer in Christ is freed from the power of sin.

Everyone is **under the wrath of God**: the answer is **propitiation**, whereby the justice of God is satisfied by Christ's death on the cross for us.

All of the benefits of this salvation are received by the individual through **faith alone**, in **Jesus Christ alone**, and based on the **grace of God alone**.

OUTLINE OF CHAPTERS 1–4

I. INTRODUCTION TO ROMANS

- *Greetings from Paul (1:1–7)*
- *Paul and the Romans (1:8–15)*
- *The Theme of Romans (1:16–17)*

II. THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL

CONDEMNATION: The Universal Reign of Sin (1:18–3:20)

- *The condemnation of the ungodly (1:18–32)*
- *The condemnation of the moralist (2:1–16)*
- *The condemnation of the Jew (2:17–3:8)*
- *The condemnation of the whole world (3:9–20)*

JUSTIFICATION: By Faith Alone (3:21–4:25)

- *The EXPLANATION of justification by faith alone (3:21–31)*
- *The ILLUSTRATION of justification by faith alone (4:1–25)*

V-VIII

ROMANS

CHAPTERS 5–8

I. RECONCILIATION

CHAPTER 5

- *Peace with God (5:1–11)*
- *Grace greater than sin and death (5:12–21)*

II. FREEDOM FROM SIN AND THE LAW

CHAPTERS 6 & 7

- *Freedom from the slavery of sin (6:1–14)*
- *Slaves of God (6:15–23)*
- *Freedom from the law (7:1–6)*
- *Conflict with the law and sin (7:7–25)*

III. LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

CHAPTER 8

- *Freedom from the condemnation of sin and death (8:1–11)*
- *Assurance of victory through the Holy Spirit (8:12–39)*
- *The triumph of the hope of the Gospel (8:30–39)*

The Hope of the Gospel

CHAPTERS FIVE THROUGH EIGHT comprise the central section of Romans and contain some of the richest and most vital truths of the Gospel. In the first four chapters, Paul has laid a strong foundation in describing the heart of “the very purest Gospel” — to use Martin Luther’s expression. Now Paul turns to deal with the impact and benefits of justification by faith. What difference does it make in the lives of those who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ? What may we now expect as we seek to live for the glory of God? Will we escape suffering? And if not, how are we to respond to it? What resources are available to us? What is the final result of this justification by faith?

These and many other questions are answered in these four chapters. All of Scripture is inspired by God (2 Timothy 3:16–17), but these important chapters should be read, studied, and personally appropriated by every authentic follower of Jesus Christ. We rejoice that all of our “lawless deeds are forgiven” and our “sins are covered” through our Lord Jesus Christ (4:7–8), but we must now “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 3:18). These chapters will be an indispensable help as we seek to “live by faith.”

GLORIOUS HOPE

Some commentators believe that chapter five should be understood in the same section as chapters one through four. While a case can be made for that, it is preferable to see Paul transitioning and beginning a new section with chapter

five. The “therefore” of 5:1 refers to the effects of the righteousness which comes from God and neatly summarizes the earlier chapters. So chapters five through eight describe the impact of our justification in the life of the believer and present the ultimate triumph of the hope of the Gospel. In the first four chapters, Paul presents the universality of sin and demolishes all contrary arguments in a powerful polemic. Now in chapter five, Paul writes in a more tender and pastoral tone. He unfolds the wonderful ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of all Christ-followers. We have the supernatural assurance of the “hope of the glory of God” — the hope of the Gospel. This theme begins in 5:1–2 and dominates chapters five through eight.

UNDERSTANDING GRACE

Paul writes of some of the gracious blessings received by those living by faith. We have peace with God and are also able to “rejoice in our sufferings” (5:3). As God graciously pours His love into our hearts “through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us,” the hope of the Gospel shines brighter and brighter. As we follow Jesus, we are very aware not only of the sin in the world, but our own sin. Yet, Paul reminds us that through the “one man Jesus Christ,” the grace of God abounds. And this grace is greater than our sin!

A true understanding of this grace of God in our lives does not mean that we continue in sin (6:1). On the contrary, through our union with our Lord Jesus Christ we “have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God” (6:22). The power of sin has been broken in our lives, and we are no longer under the bondage of the law.

Having been released from the law, we now serve God “in the new life of the Spirit” (7:6). Although we have been set free from the bondage of sin, sin still indwells us. This presents a very real struggle.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

In chapter eight, Paul reminds us that God the Holy Spirit indwells every authentic follower of Jesus Christ and enables us to live lives pleasing to God as we live “according to the Spirit.” When we follow Christ, we soon discover that

not only do we continue to be tempted by sin, we are not immune from suffering. But we endure suffering through life in the Spirit, and we are assured that nothing in the whole universe can separate us from the love of God “in Christ Jesus our Lord.” No suffering, no temptation, no devil, no hardship, and not even death itself can stand in the way of our ultimate glorification. What God begins He will certainly bring to fruition in the ultimate triumph of the “**Hope of the Gospel.**”

SANCTIFICATION

The opening four chapters of Romans present “the Heart of the Gospel,” the great truth of **justification by faith**. Martin Luther said this the doctrine by which the church stands or falls. But now as we consider “the Hope of the Gospel,” we reflect on the truth of our **sanctification**. While this term “sanctification” can be looked at in many different ways, at its heart, it is the work of God whereby He produces His righteousness in the believer.

Justification is God declaring that the sinner is now justified.

Sanctification is the transforming process whereby the believer is conformed to the image of Jesus Christ. Both justification and sanctification are accomplished on the basis of God’s grace by means of faith in Christ’s work. So our sanctification is the inevitable result of true justification. While our justification is completed at the moment of our conversion, our sanctification will not be completed until the time of our glorification! “When (Christ) appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is” (1 John 3:2).

Between our justification and our ultimate glorification is our present sanctification. In the period between our justification and our glorification, God graciously is at work in our lives “for good” (8:28). The “power of the God for salvation” (1:16) is available to every believer “who walk(s) not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit”(8:4).

In the security of the grace of God, every single person who is justified will be glorified. Those whom God justifies He also glorifies (Romans 8:30). This is the great hope of the Gospel. In our justification, we receive the *imputed*

righteousness of our Lord Jesus Christ. In our progressive sanctification, the righteousness of God is *imparted* to us as we become more and more like Jesus.

Following Jesus is truly a supernatural life — a life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit. We have an exciting study ahead of us! These chapters are not only rich in theology but are intensely helpful in living by faith each day. ✞



“There is
therefore now no
condemnation for
those who are in
Christ Jesus.”

ROMANS 8:1





MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND
PEACE IN BELIEVING, SO THAT BY THE POWER OF
THE HOLY SPIRIT YOU MAY ABOUND IN HOPE.

ROMANS 15:13

V

ROMANS 5:1-2 CHAPTER 5

The Hope of the Gospel

ROMANS 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

READ | ROMANS 5:1-2

THINK ABOUT

Paul now writes in a more pastoral tone as he begins this new section on “The Hope of the Gospel.” “Therefore” is clearly referring to the earlier chapters.

Peace with God is one of the great benefits of justification by faith. This peace with God is a present possession based on a past event. It comes “through our Lord Jesus Christ” (v. 1). See Ephesians 2:13-17.

Once we were God’s “enemies” (v. 10) but now we are reconciled. Another benefit of our justification is that we have free “access” to God (v. 2).

This understanding of the hope of the Gospel leads to joy!

APPLY

Everyone is looking for peace.

Followers of Christ have access to God as well as a supernatural joy and hope.

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ASK

What is this peace with God? How is it obtained?

Are you a person of peace? With yourself? With God? With others? Why do we find it so difficult to have this peace?

Is peace *with* God different from the peace *of* God (Philippians 4:7)?

What is this access we have by faith?

How can we experience this joy about which Paul writes?

PRAY

Praise God that through faith in Jesus Christ we have peace with God.

Pray that you will be a peacemaker in all your relationships.

Thank God for the access you have to Him “by faith into this grace in which you stand.”



SING

“Jesus, Hope of the Nations” — *Doerksen*

“THE HOPE OF THE GOSPEL”

Romans 5:1–2

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.

V

Rejoicing in Suffering

ROMANS 5:3-5

Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

READ | ROMANS 5:3-5

THINK ABOUT

Christ Himself suffered, and all New Testament churches experienced suffering.

Those sufferings produce endurance, character, and hope. Therefore we rejoice.

Paul promises God's love to be poured into our hearts in these difficult circumstances of life.

APPLY

We live in a society which wants to escape any suffering as quickly as possible. Billions of dollars are spent on pain management. Therefore we may resent any suffering!

But do not be surprised when suffering comes into your life. It is easy to become bitter or angry in these difficult situations of life.

Rather than complaining when suffering comes, think of the impact of these sufferings in your character and as an example to others.

Draw on God's love, which we need so desperately in these tough situations.

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ASK

What sufferings have you experienced in your life?

How can we actually rejoice in these tough situations? Is that realistic?

What have you seen in your life and the lives of others (positive and negative) through sufferings?

Discuss situations where you have experienced God's love in a fresh and powerful way in the middle of suffering and trials.

PRAY

Pray for God to strengthen you in your sufferings, and also that you may rejoice in them.

Thank God for His love which he pours into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

Thank God for the endurance, character, and hope which these sufferings produce.



“Blessed Be Your Name” — Redman

“REJOICING IN SUFFERING”

Romans 5:3–5

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.

HYMN

The Love of God

1 The love of God is great - er far Than tongue or pen can ev - er tell,
 2 When hour - y time shall pass a - way, And earth - ly thrones and king - doms fall,
 3 Could we with ink the o - cean fill, And were the skies of perch - ment made,

It goes be - yond the high - est star, And reach - es to the low - est bell,
 When men who here re - fuse to pray, On rocks and hills and moun - tains call,
 Were ev - ery stalk on earth a quill, And ev - ery man a scribe by trade;

The guilt - y pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to wit - ness strong;
 God's love, so sure, shall still en - dure, All meas - ure - less and strong;
 To write the love of God a - bove, Would drain the o - - cean dry.

His err - ing child, He rec - on - ciled, And par - doned from his sin - ful song,
 Re - deem - ing grace to Ad - am's race, The saints' and an - - gels' song,
 Nor could the scroll con - tain the whole, Tho' stretched from sky to sky.

Oh love of God, how rich and pure! How meas - ure - less and strong!

It shall for - ev - er - more en - dure, The saints' and an - - gels' song.

Text & Tune  Frederick M. Lehman, 1917





I HAVE
LOVED YOU
WITH AN
EVERLASTING
LOVE

JEREMIAH 31:3

V

No Greater Love

ROMANS 5:6-11

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

READ | ROMANS 5:6–11

THINK ABOUT

This is one of the best-known passages in Romans. It reminds us that there is no greater love than God sending His Son to us, and Christ dying for us.

Notice Paul’s description of us apart from the grace of God: weak, ungodly, sinners, enemies. Locate these words in this passage.

In the earlier verses, Paul had written about suffering. But this love of God, demonstrated in Christ’s death for us, confirms our hope of the Gospel.

Paul writes not only regarding the death of Christ but His life. No wonder Paul writes of rejoicing in God through our Lord Jesus Christ!

APPLY

Thank God for His great love to you. For a few minutes, meditate on these verses! Christ died for you so that you can be saved “from the wrath of God.”

Whatever your circumstances today, rejoice in God and praise Him not only for the death of His Son but His endless life. Here is the assurance of the hope of the Gospel.

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ASK

Why is it so difficult for us to admit that we are ungodly, weak, sinners, enemies of God? How would you explain these truths to a skeptic?

In our self-centered culture, it is difficult to have a Christ-centered life. What is it that distracts you from looking to Jesus? What can help us to keep rejoicing in God?

Through Christ we may be reconciled to God. Have you previously looked on the Gospel as a ministry of “reconciliation”?

PRAY

Thank you, Lord for your great love for me, and for Christ dying for me.

I confess that I am sinful and in need of God’s forgiveness through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Help me God to communicate this message of reconciliation to others.



“The Love of God” — *Lehman*

“NO GREATER LOVE”

Romans 5:6–11

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V

Adam and Christ

ROMANS 5:12–14

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—¹³ for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

READ | ROMANS 5:12–14

THINK ABOUT

These three verses deal with the important question of whether we are basically good people or basically evil. Paul has made it abundantly clear that we are all sinners. But why is sin universal? In chapter five, Paul presents Adam and Christ to explain how it is possible for one man's death on the cross to bring justification to many. Paul also demonstrates the consequences of Adam's sin.

It was through Adam that sin came into the world. Read Genesis 3. The result of sin coming into the world is that death comes to all of us — because we have all sinned in Adam.

So sin brings death: physical, spiritual, and eternal.

People died even before the Mosaic law was given (v. 14).

APPLY

Every day we are confronted with our sin. We must also deal with our mortality: death is universal. It is only through Jesus Christ that we can receive eternal life and salvation.

Praise Jesus Christ who comes to save and rescue us from the sin, condemnation, and death which came through Adam.

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ASK

What good (and bad) characteristics did you inherit from your ancestors?

How is it that death has “spread” to everyone (v. 12)?

Explain why babies die even though they have not sinned?

Why is it you never have to teach a child to say “no”?

Do we sin because we are sinners, or are we sinners because we sin?

PRAY

Thank you, Lord that through faith in Jesus Christ I may receive eternal life.

Knowing that at any moment I may pass from time into eternity, help me to appreciate every day.



“And Can It Be?” — Wesley



CURSED IS THE GROUND BECAUSE OF YOU;
IN PAIN YOU SHALL EAT OF IT
ALL THE DAYS OF YOUR LIFE;

THORNS AND THISTLES IT SHALL BRING FORTH FOR YOU;
AND YOU SHALL EAT THE PLANTS OF THE FIELD,

BY THE SWEAT OF YOUR FACE
YOU SHALL EAT BREAD,

TILL YOU RETURN TO THE GROUND,
FOR OUT OF IT YOU WERE TAKEN;

FOR YOU ARE DUST,
AND TO DUST YOU SHALL RETURN.

GENESIS 3:17-19

V

Abounding Grace

ROMANS 5:15–21

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.¹⁶ And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification.¹⁷ For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.¹⁹ For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the

one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.
²⁰ Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, ²¹ so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:21–22

For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

JOHN 5:28–29

Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice ²⁹ and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

READ | ROMANS 5:15–21

THINK ABOUT

These verses explain how sin and death entered our world.

Adam and Christ are compared and contrasted.

Note the differences between the impact of Adam’s sin and the grace of God revealed in Jesus Christ.

God’s grace is greater than our sin: “But where sin increased, grace abounded all the more” (v. 20).

Note the contrast between the “one” and the “many.”

APPLY

All of us, without exception, will die (unless Christ returns during our lifetime). Therefore, we must be prepared to meet God.

“The abundance of grace” (vv. 17, 20) is a great encouragement for followers of Jesus.

Sin can be powerful in your life, but God’s grace is greater!

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ASK

Trace the differences between Adam and Jesus Christ our Lord.

Do you ever presume on God's grace? For example, have you ever deliberately committed a sin and thought, "I can always get forgiveness after I've sinned"?

What would you say to someone who has that consistent approach to grace and sin?

PRAY

Thank God for the free gift "leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (v. 21).

Praise God that you are no longer under His condemnation but through faith in Christ have received eternal life.



"All About Grace" — *Asbury*





THEREFORE, SINCE WE HAVE BEEN

Justified by Faith

WE HAVE

Peace with God

THROUGH OUR

Lord Jesus Christ

ROMANS 5:1

VI

ROMANS 6:1-2 CHAPTER 6

A Call to Holiness

ROMANS 6:1-2

What shall we say then? Are we to continue
in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means!
How can we who died to sin still live in it?

READ | ROMANS 6:1–2

THINK ABOUT

Paul strongly refutes any suggestion that as grace abounds when sin increases, followers of Jesus should continue in sin!

He then reminds us that we have “died to sin.” In verse 10, Paul explains that Christ “died to sin.” This may help us understand what it means that *we* have “died to sin.”

Those declared “righteous” by God now must live holy lives. There must be a difference now that we are justified by faith.

APPLY

Holiness is an intensely practical subject. Paul begins by reminding us that as followers of Christ we are “dead to sin.”

Every day you are tempted to sin.

Remind yourself that you have “died to sin,” and therefore must not yield to the temptation. God calls you to live a holy life.

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ASK

If the grace of God is greater than our sin, why do we continue to be tempted to sin?

Paul says that Christ “died to sin” (v. 10), and that we also have “died to sin” (v. 2). What is the difference (if any) between Christ dying “to sin” and Christ dying “for our sins”?

How do we encourage others to no longer live in sin?

What unholiness is present in your life? What is Paul saying which is helpful?

PRAY

Help me to live a holy life, Lord.

I confess my sins and ask for your forgiveness.

Help me no longer to live in sin.



“Refiner’s Fire” — *Doerksen*

“A CALL TO HOLINESS”

Romans 6:1-2

A series of horizontal dotted lines for taking notes.

VI

United in Christ

ROMANS 6:3–10

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.

READ | ROMANS 6:3–10

THINK ABOUT

Central to living a life of holiness is an understanding that believers are united with Christ.

We are not only united with Christ in His death but also united with Him in His resurrection (vv. 3, 5).

Now we are no longer to live in sin but are to “walk in newness of life” (v. 4).

Through our union with Christ, we are set free from the power and authority (dominion) of sin.

APPLY

The unbeliever has no choice but to sin, but followers of Jesus have been set free from the power of sin.

Consider areas of holiness and unholiness in your life.

Each day consider yourself “dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus” (v. 11).

We have died to sin, but sin has not died to us!

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ASK

Union with Christ is at the heart of Paul's understanding of the believers' sanctification. How would you explain this "union with Christ."

Is Paul referring to water baptism or Spirit baptism (v. 4)?

Discuss some areas in your life where there is evidence of this "newness of life."

PRAY

Thank God for the new life you have in Jesus Christ.

Ask God to help you live a life of holiness where you are no longer slaves to sin but are alive to God.



"Before the Throne of God Above" — *Bancroft*

“UNITED IN CHRIST”

Romans 6:3–10

A series of 30 horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.

HYMN

“You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.” — ISAIAH 26:3-4

“This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” — ACTS 4:11-12

Rock of Ages

1. Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;
2. Not the la - bor of my hands Can ful - fill Thy law's de - mands,
3. No - thing in my hand I bring, Simp - ly to the cross I cling;
4. While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eyes shall close in death.

Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy wound - ed side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know; Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less look to Thee for grace;
When I sou - r to worlds un - known, See Thee on Thy judg - ment throne,

Be of sin the dou - ble cure; Save from wrath and make me pure.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone
Foul I to the foun - tain fly; Wash me, Sa - - vior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776 ✠ Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1830

VI

Breaking the Sin Habit

ROMANS 6:11–14

So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

¹² Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. ¹³ Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

COLOSSIANS 3:1–11

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

READ | ROMANS 6:11-14

THINK ABOUT

Are you sometimes discouraged by the cycle of sin in your life?

In verses 1-10, Paul makes it clear that there are certain things that we “know” (vv. 3, 6, 9). But now there is something to “consider” (v. 11).

Paul has said that we have “died to sin” (v. 2) Now he encourages us to consider ourselves “dead to sin” (v. 11). This is something we must do.

Breaking the sin habit demands a negative presentation and a positive one (v. 13). The reign of sin in our lives has been broken (vv. 12, 14).

APPLY

All of us have experienced a particular sin dragging us down over and over again. We feel life would be wonderful if we were to be able to break this sin habit.

Each day we must obey the teaching of verses 11-14.

Rather than living a life of defeat, guilt, and despair, Paul gives the spiritual solution to breaking the sin habit.

It is important that you know the sin patterns in your life. Where are you vulnerable? Where have you fallen in the past? Develop holy habits.

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ASK

Share some patterns of sin in your life which have been difficult to break. What does Paul mean when he says sin “will have no dominion” over us? (v. 14).

What is the difference between living the Christian life “under law” as opposed to living it “under grace” (v. 14)?

What holy habits should be developed in your life, so that sinful habits are broken?

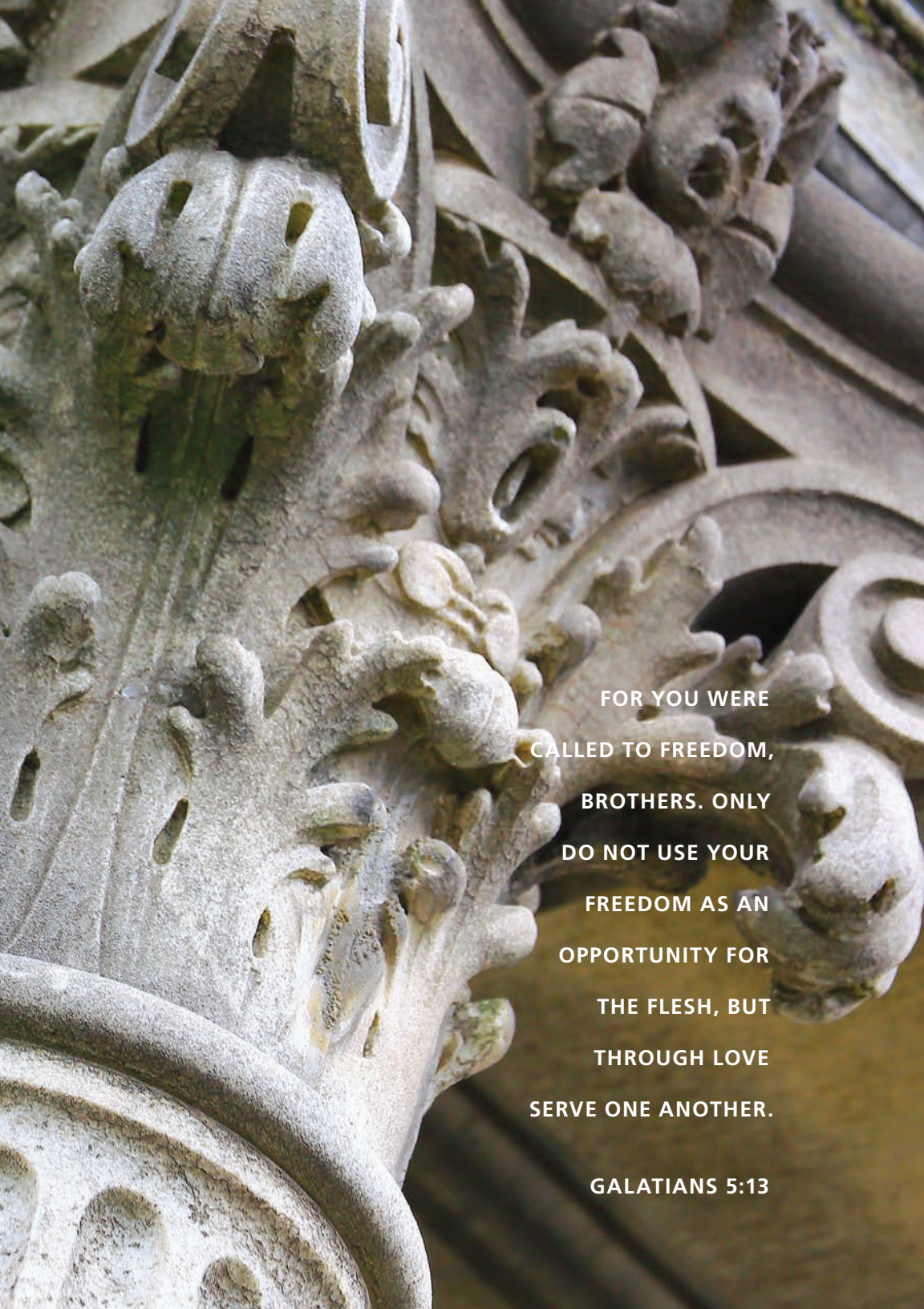
PRAY

Lord help me to consider myself dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

I now present myself to you as an instrument for righteousness.



“Take My Life and Let It Be” — *Havergal*



FOR YOU WERE
CALLED TO FREEDOM,
BROTHERS. ONLY
DO NOT USE YOUR
FREEDOM AS AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR
THE FLESH, BUT
THROUGH LOVE
SERVE ONE ANOTHER.

GALATIANS 5:13

VI

God's Slaves

ROMANS 6:15-23

What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

¹⁷ But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸ and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the

fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

JOHN 8:31–38

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

³³ They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. ³⁷ I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. ³⁸ I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father.”

COLOSSIANS 1:13–14

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

READ | ROMANS 6:15–23

THINK ABOUT

Impurity and lawlessness are the consequences of being a slave to sin. But when we are slaves of God, the fruits are holiness and eternal life.

Whoever you obey is your master: sin or God. Slaves of sin or slaves of God?

Consider the teaching of Jesus in John 8:31–38.

APPLY

Each day ask yourself: Am I pursuing God or am I pursuing sin? Who is my master?

Present yourself to God each day as His slave.

Check today whether your heart is obedient (v. 17). Praise God that He is your Master.

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ASK

Are you guilty of “cheap grace” and presuming on the kindness and goodness of God?

What would be some early signs that you are a “slave of sin”?

Is someone who consistently lives an immoral life an authentic follower of Jesus?

Is there any evidence of unholiness in your life?

What does it mean to receive “the free gift of God” which is “eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (v. 23)?

PRAY

*“Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!”
(Psalm 139:23–24).*

Thank you Lord for your free gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus.



SING

“Your Own” — C. Hathaway



A scenic view of a city, likely Rome, with colorful buildings and a large tree in the foreground. The sky is overcast with soft light. The text is overlaid on the image.

“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.”

EPHESIANS 2:4-7

HYMN

“Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.’” — JOHN 6:35


Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1 Guide me, O Thou great Je - ho - vah, Pil - gran through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, Whence the heal - ing
 3 Lord, I trust Thy might - ly po - wer, Won - drous are Thy
 4 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my an - xi - ous
 5 Mu - sing on my hu - bi - ta - tion, Mu - sing on my

bar - ren land, I am weak, but Thou art might - y; Hold me with Thy
 stream doth flow; Let the fire and Thou art might - y; Hold me with Thy
 works of old; Thou de - liv - er - est Thine from thrall - dom, Who for naught them -
 fears sub - side; Death of deaths, and hell's de - struc - tion, Land me safe on
 heav'n - ly home, Fills my soul with ho - ly long - ings, Come, my Je - sus,

pow'r - ful hand Bread of Hea - ven, Bread of Hea - ven, Feed me
 jour - ney through Strong De - liv' - er, strong De - liv' - er, Be Thou
 selves had sold, Thou didst con - quer, Thou didst con - quer, Sin, and
 Ca - naan's side, Songs of pra - ses, songs of pra - ses, I will
 quick - ly come, Va - ni - ty is all I see, Lord, I

till I want no more; Feed me till I want no more.
 still my Strength and Shield; Be Thou still my Strength and Shield
 Sa - tan and the grave, Sin, and Sa - tan and the grave
 ey - er gave to Thee; I will ey - er give to Thee
 long to be with Thee! Lord, I long to be with Thee!

Text: William Williams, 1745  *Tune: John Huges, 1907*

VII

Free From the Law

ROMANS 7:1–6

Or do you not know, brothers — for I am speaking to those who know the law — that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? ² For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. ³ Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

⁴ Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. ⁵ For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. ⁶ But now we are released from the law, having

died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

EPHESIANS 4:20–24

But that is not the way you learned Christ!—²¹ assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, ²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

GALATIANS 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

READ | ROMANS 7:1-6

THINK ABOUT

Previously Paul has made it abundantly clear that observance of the Law does not lead to salvation. There is nothing wrong with the Law, but none of us can keep it as we are all sinful.

Followers of Jesus no longer live under the Mosaic Law as the rule of law in our lives. It is not that the Law is bad, but that sin is “aroused by the law.” In these verses, Paul uses the illustration of marriage. The law is binding only as long as our husband or wife lives (v. 1). Upon death, a spouse is free to remarry.

Similarly, followers of Jesus “have died to the law” (v. 4). We now serve God “not under the old written code, but in the new life of the Spirit” (v. 6).

APPLY

Although authentic followers of Jesus are saved by grace “apart from the works of the Law,” many of us appear to be legalistic in viewing our own Christian life and the lives of others. These judgmental and legalistic tendencies take the joy out of the Christian life and hold us “captive” (v. 6).

The Holy Spirit brings freedom (not license). As we follow Jesus, we experience a “new life.” So this week, live in conscious dependence of the Spirit rather than trying to judge yourself and others by rules and regulations.

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ASK

Why is it that many couples seem to struggle to keep their commitment “until death we do part”? What is God’s intention for marriage?

What advice would you give to a couple whose marriage is in danger of falling apart?

Discuss the differences between serving God “under the old written code” as opposed to living the Christian life “in the new life of the Spirit” (v. 6).

PRAY

Help me to live the new life of the Spirit.

Forgive me, Lord, when I am judgmental of others.



“Wounded for Me” — *Ovens*

“FREE FROM THE LAW”

Romans 7:1-6

Dotted lines for writing notes.

VII

The Law and Sin

ROMANS 7:7-12

What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.”⁸ But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead.⁹ I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died.¹⁰ The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me.¹¹ For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me.¹² So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

READ | ROMANS 7:7-12

THINK ABOUT

Paul continues with the subject of law and its relationship with sin. In today's society, we have almost eradicated the word "sin" — even in some churches. To mention "sin" is thought to be negative. After all "sin" doesn't make us feel good about ourselves! But we will never have an accurate view of God's salvation unless we have an accurate and biblical view of sin.

Without the law, we could not understand what sin is. Such is our sinfulness, that the very law which tells us not to sin may stimulate us to sin — with disastrous consequences.

But the law is "holy and righteous and good" (v. 12).

APPLY

Beware of the attitude: "No one is going to tell me what to do!"

Pray that you will have a humble, rather than a rebellious attitude.

Sometimes in accountability groups, brothers and sisters in Christ relate their failures and sins. Be careful that such "accountability" does not result in you enjoying hearing about failures in the lives of others.

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ASK

Discuss why we often seem to have an inherent rebellion against someone telling us what to do — even God! We know that God’s law is perfect, but neither our justification nor our sanctification is found in trying to obey the law.

What are some ways that you have been deceived by sin? What is the spiritual path Paul is exhorting? Have you experienced this freedom from the law of sin and death?

PRAY


Help me to love the law of Christ and not to rebel against it.

May I have a humble heart which seeks to please God rather than seeking to please myself.



SING

“At Calvary” — *Newell*



AND I AM SURE OF THIS,
THAT HE WHO BEGAN
A GOOD WORK IN YOU
WILL BRING IT TO
COMPLETION AT THE DAY
OF JESUS CHRIST.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

VII

The Struggle

ROMANS 7:13–25

Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure. ¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵ For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷ So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God,

in my inner being,²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

GALATIANS 5:13–15

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

READ | ROMANS 7:13–25

THINK ABOUT

This is one of the most disputed passages in Romans! Who is the “I” in the verses? Is it Paul before he came to Christ? Paul after his conversion? Is it a person who is following Christ, but continually defeated by sin?

Notice Paul’s description of this person: “I am of the flesh, sold under sin” (v. 14).

“Nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh” (v. 18).

But he delights in the law of God (v. 22), and thanks God through Jesus Christ our Lord (v. 25).

There is a serious struggle between the desire to do what is right, and on the other hand, doing the evil he does not want to do (vv. 18–23).

APPLY

All of us can identify with the struggle against sin. Did you have this struggle before you came to Christ? Is this struggle that you experience now different from the struggle before coming to Christ?

This week, consider whether your walk with Christ is primarily frustrating or joyful.

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ASK

Who do you think Paul is describing? Does this struggle resonate with you as you follow Jesus Christ? Why does Paul seem so pessimistic and despairing?

Why does Paul not mention the power of the Holy Spirit? He does in chapter eight.

If sin will not have dominion over those who are following Christ (6:14), why does Paul talk about being “of the flesh, sold under sin”? (v. 14). Is this the same struggle as between the flesh and the Spirit in Galatians 5:16–26?

PRAY

Lord, I confess I sometimes do that which I don't want to do and fail to do what I know I should do.

Thank you for the victory that I have through Jesus Christ my Lord.

Help me to walk by the Spirit each day.



“You Alone Can Rescue” — *Redman*

“THE STRUGGLE”

Romans 7:13–25

A series of horizontal dotted lines for taking notes, spanning the width of the page.





FINALLY, BROTHERS,

WHATEVER IS *true*, WHATEVER IS *honorable*,

WHATEVER IS *just*, WHATEVER IS *pure*, WHATEVER IS

lovely, WHATEVER IS *commendable*,

IF THERE IS ANY *excellence*, IF THERE IS

ANYTHING *worthy of praise*,

THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS.

PHILIPPIANS 4:8

VIII

No Condemnation

ROMANS 8:1-4

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

READ | ROMANS 8:1–4

THINK ABOUT

In Romans 5:18, Paul has explained that one trespass led to condemnation for all men. All have sinned, and therefore all are condemned.

But now there is no condemnation (v. 1). The “therefore” probably goes back to Romans 7:6 where Paul referred to “the new life of the Spirit.” This freedom from the law of sin and death is part of the hope of the Gospel.

Scripture does not teach universal salvation. Those who have been delivered from condemnation are only those who are “in Christ Jesus.” Paul is again referring to our union with Jesus Christ.

Consider the tremendous deliverance from “the law of sin and death” (v. 2). God has done what we could never do on our own. God’s Son “condemned sin in the flesh” (v. 3). This new life in the Spirit is for all who are “in Christ Jesus.”

The “requirement of the law” is fulfilled in us as we live according to the Spirit.

John Stott writes: “Through the death of his incarnate Son, God *justifies* us; through the power of his indwelling Spirit, He *sanctifies* us.”

APPLY

If you are an authentic follower of Jesus Christ, worship God and praise Him that there is now no condemnation. You have been justified. You are being sanctified.

Live this life of freedom. Live a life pleasing God as you walk “according to the Spirit” (v. 4).

ASK

What does it mean to be “in Christ Jesus” (v. 1)? Are you truly experiencing this freedom of the new life of the Spirit?

What is the difference between living in the flesh and living in the Spirit? Think of some practical examples.

How would you describe to an unbeliever what it means to live “according to the Spirit”?

PRAY

If you are an authentic follower of Jesus Christ, thank God that for you there is “no condemnation.”

Pray that you will live according to the Spirit.



SING

“Hallelujah, What a Savior!” — *Bliss*

“NO CONDEMNATION”

Romans 8:1-4

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.

HYMN

“When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.” — JOHN 16:13

Be Thou My Vision

1. Be Thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart,
 2. Be Thou my Wis - dom, and Thou my true Word,
 3. Be Thou my ba - ttle Shield, Sword for the fight,
 4. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's em - pty praise,
 5. High King of Hea - ven, my vie - tor - y won,

Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art,
 I ev - er with Thee and Theu with me, Lord,
 Be Thou my Dig - ni - ty, Thou my De - light,
 Thou mine In - her - i - tance, now and al - ways
 May I reach Heav'n's joys, O bright Hea - ven's Sun!

Thou my great best Thought, by day or by night,
 Thou my soul's Fa - ther, and I Thy true son,
 Thou and Thou Shel - ter, Thou my high To - wer,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

Wa - king or sleep - ing, Thy pre - sence my light,
 Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with Thee - ou,
 Raise Thou me heav'n - ward, Pow'r of my pow'r
 High King of Hea - ven, my Trea - sure Thou art,
 Still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all

Text: translated by Byrne & Hull, 1905-12 Tune: Irish Folk Melody

VIII

The Flesh and The Spirit

ROMANS 8:5–13

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 set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

JOHN 15:1–11

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

READ | ROMANS 8:5-13

THINK ABOUT

Notice the differences between the flesh and the Spirit. They are diametrically opposed to each other.

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But followers of Christ are “in the Spirit” (vv. 8-9). One of the characteristics of true believers is that they are indwelt by the Spirit of Christ (v. 9). Consider the tremendous difference this means between the saved and the unsaved. As we yield to the Spirit, we will “put to death the deeds of the body” (v. 13).

Compare this passage with John 15:1-11.

APPLY

Each day set your mind on the things of the Spirit. Confess to God the times you pursue the things of the flesh.

Think of the consequences of living according to the flesh compared with the fruit of living according to the Spirit.

Experience that supernatural peace when you set your mind on the Spirit (v. 6).

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ASK

What are some of the characteristics of “the flesh” which characterized your life before coming to Christ?

What does it mean to “set your mind on the Spirit”?

Is every follower of Jesus indwelt by the Holy Spirit? Filled by the Spirit?

PRAY

Help me today to set my mind on the Spirit.

Thank you for the Spirit of Christ who indwells me.

Thank you for the eternal life that I have in Christ.



“Spirit of the Living God” — *Iverson*

“THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT”

Romans 8:5-13

A series of horizontal dotted lines for taking notes.

VIII

Sons of God

ROMANS 8:14–16

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”

¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God...

1 JOHN 3:1

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

GALATIANS 4:6–7

And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

READ | ROMANS 8:14–16

THINK ABOUT

Some people are afraid of God. They have been given the impression that God is some kind of cosmic killjoy just waiting to zap them! But Paul has explained that “there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (8:1).

Therefore we are not to “fall back into fear” (v. 15). We are sons of God. Being indwelt by the Spirit (v. 9), the Spirit of God now leads us.

Furthermore, we have received “the Spirit of adoption as sons.” Now that we are in the family of God, there is no need to be afraid. God is our loving Father.

The Holy Spirit assures us that we truly are children of God (v. 16).

APPLY

All of us know what fear is. Some people live in constant fear. But through the miracle of the Gospel, we are conscious of the work of the Spirit in our lives.

Particularly in the difficult times of our lives, the Holy Spirit supernaturally assures us of the love of our Heavenly Father and that we are His children.

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ASK

What does it mean to be “led by the Spirit” (v. 14)?

Some people may look down on children who are adopted. How does God regard our adoption in His family?

Describe some difficult situations where you have received loving assurance from the Spirit that you are a child of God.

PRAY

Help me, Lord, not to live in fear but to experience that peace which passes all understanding.

Thank you that I am your child. Help me today to be led by your Spirit.

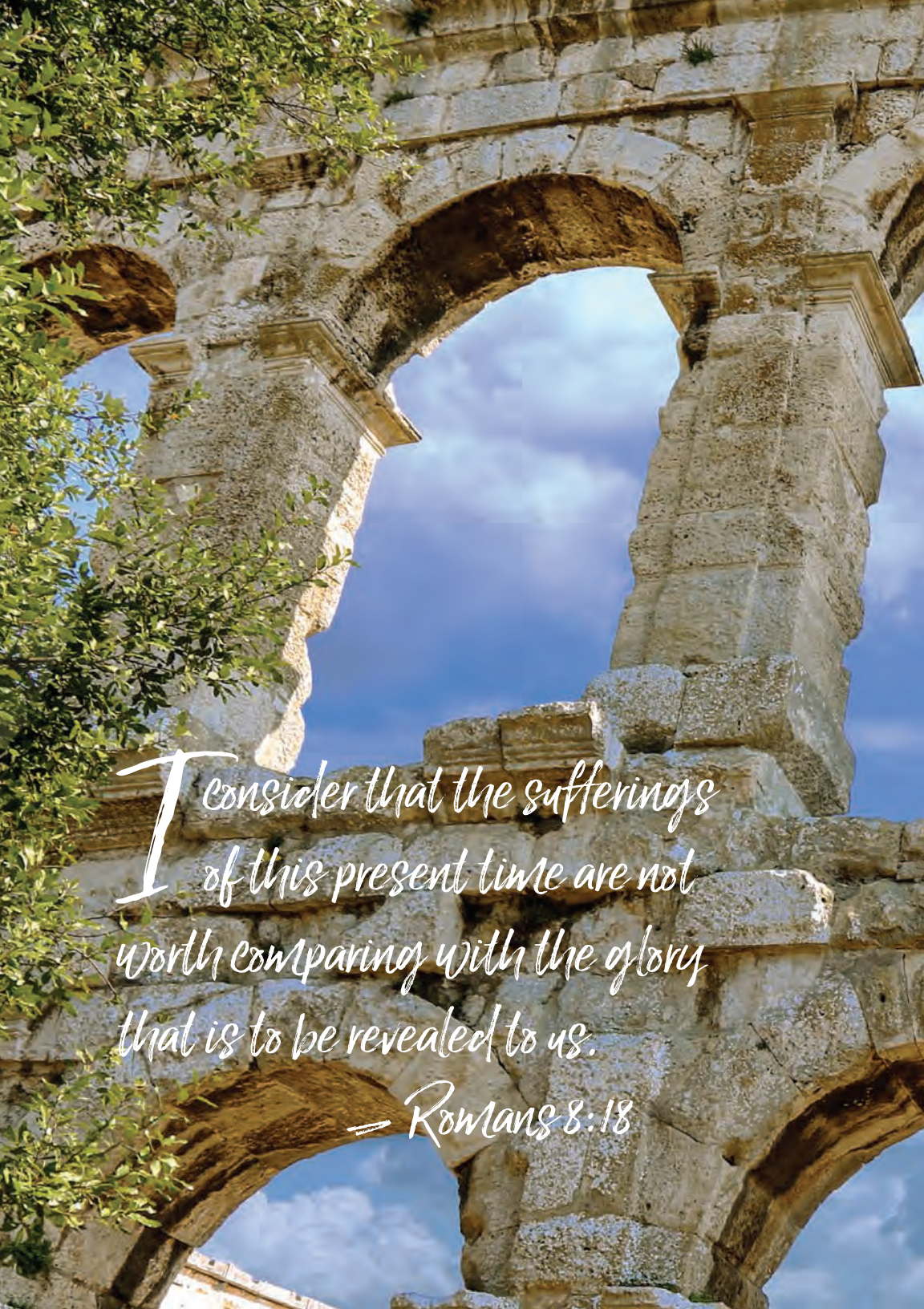


“Good Good Father” — Tomlin

“SONS OF GOD”

Romans 8:14-16

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.



*Consider that the sufferings
of this present time are not
worth comparing with the glory
that is to be revealed to us.*

— Romans 8:18

VIII

Glory through Suffering

ROMANS 8:17–27

...and if children, then heirs — heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing 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 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons,

the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

JOHN 16:33

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

1 PETER 2:21

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

PSALM 23:4

Even 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.

READ | ROMANS 8:17-27

THINK ABOUT

Prosperity Preachers give the impression that if you are ill or poor, something is spiritually wrong with you. But this is not the teaching of Scripture (as is seen in these verses). The New Testament writers (as Paul does here) assume that followers of Jesus will experience suffering. See also John 16:33 and 1 Peter 2:21.

We learn in these verses that suffering is the way to glory for those who follow Jesus (v. 17-18). The present sufferings are insignificant compared to this future glory.

The whole of God’s creation groans in present subjection and is eagerly longing for the future. Praise God there will be new heavens and a new earth.

Although we “groan inwardly” (v. 23) God graciously gives us the Holy Spirit who comes to help in our time of weakness. Here is the hope of the Gospel.

APPLY

Don’t be devastated when suffering and trials come into your life. Being a follower of Jesus does not render you immune from such suffering and disappointments! Each day, remember the hope of the Gospel: our future glory.

Take a moment today and thank God that you are His heir and fellow heir with Christ! This hope (vv. 24-25) is not a mere possibility, but a sure certainty.

Even when you are too weak to pray, the Spirit is interceding for you.

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ASK

What have been some of the worst sufferings you have experienced as you have followed Jesus?

How have you responded to these sufferings? How should you respond?

What evidence is there that even “the whole creation” is groaning (v. 22)?

Have you ever been in a situation where you have been so weak that you have been unable to pray?

PRAY

Thank God that you are an heir and fellow heir with Christ.

Ask God to help you in your time of weakness and suffering.

Thank God for the Holy Spirit who intercedes for us.



“You Never Let Go” — Redman

VIII

All Things for Good

ROMANS 8:28–30

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

READ | ROMANS 8:28–30

THINK ABOUT

Verse 28 is one of the best-loved and most quoted of all Scriptures. Make sure you understand the context of the preceding verses dealing with the perplexing subject of suffering.

In verses 17–25, Paul explains that present suffering is insignificant compared with future glory. In verses 26–27, Paul encourages us to endure suffering because of the intercession of the Holy Spirit.

Followers of Jesus can endure present suffering because God is working all things for our good (v. 28)! God is accomplishing His eternal goal for us in conforming us to the image of His Son (v. 29). This is our final salvation.

Note the five links in the golden chain:

- **Foreknowledge**
- **Predestination**
- **Calling**
- **Justification**
- **Glorification**

APPLY

Once we understand the context of the magnificent verse 28, we can apply its truth in different circumstances of life.

We tend to be very short-sighted, self-focused, and self-pitying. In this hope of the Gospel, Paul reminds us to think of the ultimate goal — our salvation. We shall be like Jesus.

ASK

Has anyone quoted Romans 8:28 to you rather glibly or in a way which you did not appreciate? When is it appropriate to remind someone of its truth?

The five links in the golden chain of salvation are rich (and sometimes controversial) theology. While we may not understand all of these truths, don't they provide tremendous security? Paul mentions justification and glorification, but why does he leave out our present sanctification?

PRAY

Praise God that He is working all things for your good.

Thank God also for the eternal security in Christ.

Ask God to help you to become more and more like Jesus.




“Your Love Never Fails” — *Skinner & McClarney*

“ALL THINGS FOR GOOD”

Romans 8:28–30

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.



NOW MAY OUR LORD JESUS
CHRIST HIMSELF, AND GOD OUR
FATHER, WHO LOVED US AND
GAVE US ETERNAL COMFORT
AND GOOD HOPE THROUGH
GRACE, COMFORT YOUR
HEARTS AND ESTABLISH THEM
IN EVERY GOOD WORK
AND WORD.

2 THESSALONIANS 2:16-17

VIII

Four Impossibilities

ROMANS 8:31–39

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 gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died — more than that, who was raised — who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present

nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 JOHN 4:7–12

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

LAMENTATIONS 3:22–24

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
²³ they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
²⁴ “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,
“therefore I will hope in him.”

READ | ROMANS 8:31–39

THINK ABOUT

These verses are among the most majestic, inspirational, and comforting words ever written. Here is the security of the hope of the Gospel.

Paul has already said that God's purposes for His children will not be thwarted (v. 28–30). Now he explains that his love for his children guarantees our salvation. Note all of the rhetorical questions.

Here are the four impossibilities:

- No opposition: God is for us
- No accusation: God justifies
- No condemnation: Christ has died for our sins
and is presently interceding for us
- No separation from the love of God

APPLY

When you feel alone and vulnerable, remember that God is for you.

Not only did Jesus Christ die for you, He will give you all you need in this life to live for His glory.

When Satan accuses you of your sins, remind him that you are justified — declared righteous by a holy God through faith in Christ.

In the painful situations of life, remember that nothing can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

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ASK

Why is this one of the most loved passages in all of Scripture? In what way has God used it in your life?

What are the outstanding truths that would be helpful to share when a brother or sister is struggling?

Paul has previously said that the “Spirit Himself intercedes for us” (v. 26). Is this different from the Son of God “who indeed is interceding for us” (v. 34)?

PRAY

Praise God for this love from which separation is impossible.

Ask God for help to tell others of this amazing love.

When Satan attacks you, ask God to help you to resist him.

Praise God for the cross of Christ and His glorious resurrection.

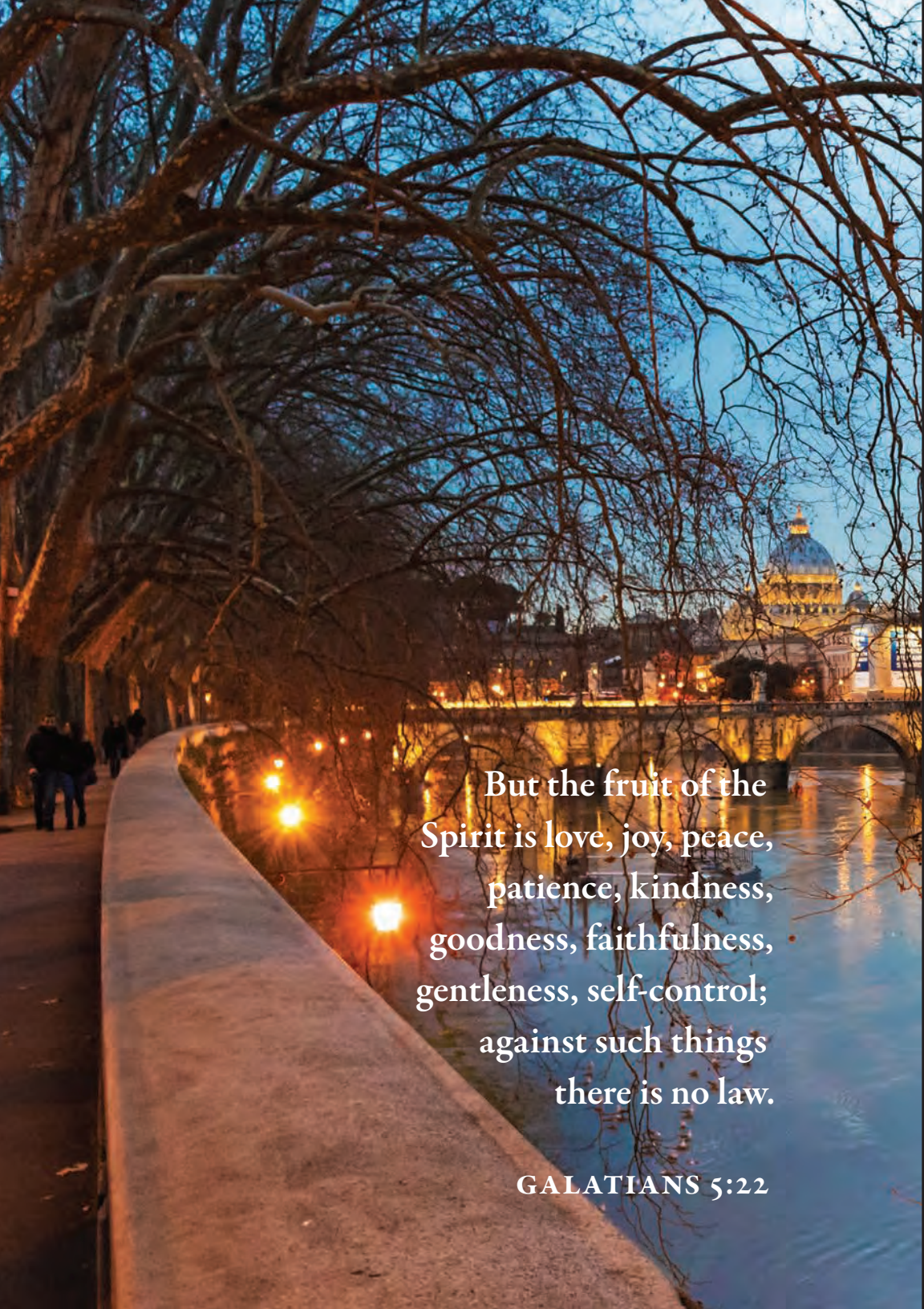


“He Will Hold Me Fast” — *Getty*

“FOUR IMPOSSIBILITIES”

Romans 8:31–39

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.

A night scene of a river in Paris, likely the Seine. The foreground shows a concrete railing and a sidewalk with a few people walking. The middle ground features a bridge with arches and warm lights reflecting on the water. In the background, a large domed building, possibly the Sacré-Cœur, is illuminated. The sky is a deep blue, and the trees are bare, creating a silhouette effect.

But the fruit of the
Spirit is love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness, self-control;
against such things
there is no law.

GALATIANS 5:22

Understanding Sanctification

Sanctification is the work of God within the believer by which we grow into the image of Jesus Christ and display the fruit of the Spirit. The imputed holiness of Christ becomes ours at the moment of our conversion. Now in our daily behavior, practical holiness is to be lived out.

MODELS OF SANCTIFICATION

THE TEACHING OF CHRISTIAN PERFECTION

John Wesley (1703–91) believed in a state of Christian perfection — a state subsequent to salvation. This teaching of Christian perfection is based on a second blessing being the key to holiness. This second work of God was described as “perfection,” “second blessing,” “holiness,” “perfect love,” or “entire sanctification.”

This view is that through a second experience, followers of Jesus enter an upgraded quality of Christian living. Through this second blessing, we sense God’s love more vividly and our own love for God. The heart is cleansed from sin so that sin ceases to control the believer’s behavior. Full and genuine holiness of life (so it is claimed) comes after this second experience, this second work of grace. This “perfection” happens in a single instant when the believer is raised to the higher level of perfection. But this state of perfection can be lost. The believer then falls away and may be eternally lost.

Critique

Christian perfection is not a biblical view of sanctification. This view confuses Christian *maturity* with Christian *perfection*. In sanctification, we grow in Christian *maturity*, but we never reach Christian perfection until that eternal day when we see Jesus Christ face to face.

The New Testament describes the tensions of the Christian's life and the struggles between the flesh and the Spirit. "For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing" (Romans 7:19). The believer is eternally secure (see John 10:28). Those truly saved will never be lost.

THE TEACHING OF CLASSIC PENTECOSTALISM

In Pentecostalism, sanctification is based on the baptism of the Spirit being the key to holiness.

Classic Pentecostalism teaches a two-stage spiritual life. Stage one is conversion. Stage two is a second work of grace for a believer. This second work is a post-conversion work of the Spirit — a second blessing. In Classic Pentecostalism, the "inevitable indispensable evidence" of the second blessing (or second work of grace) is speaking in tongues. This second work of grace is referred to as the "baptism of the Spirit" or baptism into the Spirit. The evidence that the believer has entered into this second work of grace is speaking in tongues, victory over sin, and power for service.

Critique

This teaching is not biblical. The baptism of the Spirit occurs not as a second work of grace but at conversion. Every believer is baptized by the Spirit into the body of Christ (see 1 Corinthians 12:13). Not everyone spoke with tongues in the first-century church (see 1 Corinthians 12:30).

The New Testament doesn't speak of a second blessing (second work of grace). Every believer has been blessed with "every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ" (Ephesians 1:3).

THE TEACHING OF “LET GO AND LET GOD”

According to this view, “resting in Christ” is the key to holiness. The way of faith is to consciously let Christ do things in and through you, rather than trying to do them yourself. Hand over your sinful urges to Christ. He will defeat them. A perfection of performance will issue from this inner passivity of looking to Christ to do everything. Victory over sin is emphasized. In this teaching, there is a need for a decisive turning point for the believer — a kind of post-conversion crisis experience. This may be called a dedication, where the Christian sometime after conversion dedicates himself or herself in a “complete, crisis commitment of self for all the years of one’s life.”

Critique

This flawed teaching which emphasizes “resting in Christ” is in conflict with Scripture, where there is a continual battle between the flesh and the Spirit. The New Testament urges the need for vigilance, discipline, labor, and striving. J. I. Packer says that the Christian life is not so much “Let go and let God” but “Trust God and get going.”

Dedication to Christ is important, but it is not the “once and for all” key to holy living. In this teaching, there can also be a focus on the “victory” of Christian living (very subjective), rather than on obeying God and living a holy life for God’s glory.

A BIBLICAL VIEW OF SANCTIFICATION

The life of holiness for the Christian begins not at a post-conversion experience but at the moment of conversion. At conversion, the believer is a new creation (see 2 Corinthians 5:17). The true believer is sanctified from the moment of conversion (see 1 Corinthians 6:11).

Sanctification has three aspects:

- **Positional Sanctification:** At the moment of conversion
- **Progressive Sanctification:** The process of sanctification
- **Prospective Sanctification:** Our final glorification (see 1 John 3:2)

PRACTICAL BIBLICAL SANCTIFICATION

Consider Peter's teaching on holiness:

“Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, “You shall be holy for I am holy” (1 Peter 1:13–16).

1. PREPARE YOUR MIND FOR ACTION (v.13). There is the constant need for mental alertness. A godly mental resolve is critical to holy living. Doing God's will involves being transformed by the renewing of our minds (See Romans 12:2). Are you thinking spiritually? Is your mind daily being renewed? What do you think about? What do you daydream about? Before there is an unholy action or word, there is always an unholy thought. Holiness demands mental alertness. Unholiness begins in the mind. “Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things” (Philippians 4:8).

2. BE SELF-DISCIPLINED (v. 13). This is also translated “sober-minded” (ESV), “keep sober” (NASB), and “self-controlled” (NIV). Unholy people are not self-controlled. The fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:23 includes self control. Holy people are disciplined people. Their lives are well-balanced.

This command to keep sober rules out all excess in our lives. Is there any excess in your life? What about your eating habits? What about your finances? Your spending habits? Your sexuality? Your thoughts and your speech? What about the use of your time? Many believers say that they are busy, but many are busy with the wrong things. We say we are too busy to read our Bibles or attend a Sunday worship service, but we spend hours at a ballgame, in front of a television, pursuing a hobby, or socializing with our friends. Holy living demands discipline.

3. SET YOUR HOPE (v. 13). One of the greatest incentives to holy living is to realize that as pilgrims and strangers we are to live in the light of eternity. If your hope is fixed on God's grace, you will see very clearly what is holy and what is unholy. Heaven is our home. The values of the kingdom which is to come impact how we live today. Evaluate your life in the light of eternity. Jesus is coming back soon.

4. BE OBEDIENT (v. 14). We belong to the family of God. One of the characteristics of being part of God's family is that we obey our heavenly Father. If you love Jesus, you will obey Him. "Whoever has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me" (John 14:21).

Holy living is obeying Christ. Scripture doesn't describe holiness in mystical or emotional terms, but rather as obeying the Lord. Too many Christians have self-fulfillment, happiness, or feeling good about themselves as their goal rather than obeying the Lord. Obey the Word of God. "Long for the pure spiritual milk" (1 Peter 2:2) of the Word of God.

5. BE CHRIST-LIKE (vv. 15–16). Simply put: holiness is being like Jesus. God the Father is holy. God the Son is holy. God the Spirit is holy. We are to be like God, who is holy. "But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy'" (1 Peter 1:15–16).

Begin each day by setting apart everything to the Lord. Have holy thoughts, holy eyes, holy attitudes, holy words, holy actions, holy relationships — set apart everything for Jesus. In our study of Romans 5–8, we learn what it means to consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus (see Romans 6:11). God calls us to walk "not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit" (Romans 8:4).

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8).

"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16).

"Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). ❀

HYMN

"I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies." — PSALM 18:1-3

My Hope Is Built

1 My hope is built on no - - thing less Than Je - sus' blood and
 2 When dark - ness veils His lov - - e - - ly face, I rest on His un - -
 3 His oath, His cov - e - - nant, His blood, Sup - port me in the
 4 When He shall come with trun - pet sound, Oh may I then in

right - eous - ness I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, But
 chang - ing grace. In ev - - ery high and storm - y gale, My
 whelm - ing flood. When all a - round my soul gives way, He
 Him be found. Dressed in His right - eous - - ness a - lone, Fault -

whol - ly trust in Je - sus' Name. On Christ the so - - lid
 an - chor holds with - - in the veil.
 then is all my hope and stay,
 less to stand be - - fore the throne.

Rock. I stand. All o - - ther ground is sink - - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1834 Tune: John B. Dykes, 1861




EVERYONE THEN WHO HEARS THESE
WORDS OF MINE AND DOES THEM
WILL BE LIKE A WISE MAN WHO
BUILT HIS HOUSE ON THE ROCK.

AND THE RAIN FELL, AND THE
FLOODS CAME, AND THE WINDS
BLEW AND BEAT ON THAT HOUSE,
BUT IT DID NOT FALL, BECAUSE IT
HAD BEEN FOUNDED ON THE ROCK.

MATTHEW 7:24-25





THE GRASS WITHERS,
THE FLOWER FADES,

BUT THE WORD
OF OUR GOD WILL
STAND FOREVER.

ISAIAH 40:8

APPLICATION

Scripture & Our Sanctification

THE TEACHING OF JESUS

Without Scripture there is no salvation, and without Scripture there is no sanctification. God's Word sanctifies us with its supernatural power of cleansing and transformation. Jesus said to the disciples:

“Sanctify them in the truth; your word in truth.” — John 17:17

THE TEACHING OF PETER

Peter reminds us of the essential role of the Word of God in our spiritual regeneration and spiritual growth.

“Since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for ‘All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.’ And this word is the good news that was preached to you. So put away malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation — if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.” — 1 Peter 1:23–2:3

THE TEACHING OF PAUL

The Holy Scriptures make us “wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.” Also, without the Scriptures we will never be “equipped for every good work.”

“But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

— 2 Timothy 3:14–17

THE TEACHING OF THE PSALMIST

“How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.” — Psalm 119:9

“I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.” — Psalm 119:11

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” — Psalm 119:105

“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord and on his law he meditates day and night.” — Psalm 1:1–2

“The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.” — Psalm 19:7–11 ❧

LET'S MEMORIZE GOD'S WORD TOGETHER

Punch out these Scripture cards and carry them with you, or place them where you'll see them often. Review the verses daily and commit them to memory!

THEREFORE,
SINCE WE HAVE BEEN
JUSTIFIED BY FAITH,
WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD
THROUGH OUR
LORD JESUS CHRIST.

ROMANS 5:1

*For sin will have
no dominion over you,
since you are
not under law
but under grace.*

ROMANS 6:14

*There is
therefore now
no condemnation
for those who are
in Christ Jesus.*

ROMANS 8:1

AND WE KNOW THAT
FOR THOSE WHO LOVE GOD
ALL THINGS WORK
TOGETHER FOR GOOD,
FOR THOSE WHO ARE
CALLED ACCORDING TO
HIS PURPOSE.

ROMANS 8:28



FOR THE WORD OF GOD AND FOR THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST

REVELATION 1:9

