

I. Introduction and Review: Life in the Spirit -- Security.

II. You are no longer under condemnation. v. 1

- A. *Now* that we are no longer under law, but in the new era of grace inaugurated by the work of Christ... *Now* that the Spirit has come.
- B. Of what *condemnation* does Paul speak?
 - 1. The judicial punishment we deserve because of our sin. 5:12,16,18 8:3 2:8 3:9-18
 - 2. Many believe Paul is also speaking of our bondage to sin.
- C. Condemnation is removed *for those who are in Christ Jesus*. 5:18 6:3f John 3:18
- D. There is absolutely *no* condemnation for those who are in Christ! 8:33-34

III. The Spirit has set you free from sin and death. v. 2

- A. When you were under the law you were in bondage to sin and death. v. 2b 7:1-4,6a
- B. The Holy Spirit has applied the work of Christ in order to release you. v. 2a Ti. 3:5-6
 - 1. Who is the Holy Spirit?
 - a. A Person, not merely a force or a power. 8:26 Jo. 14:26 16:7-11 Mt. 12:31-32
 - b. He is fully God. Acts 5:4-5 I Co. 3:16 Rev. 1:4-5 Mark 3:29 II Co. 3:17-18
 - c. The Third Person of the Trinity. II Co. 13:14 Mt. 28:19 I Pe. 1:2 Eph. 3:16-19
 - 2. What is the *law of the Spirit of life*? 7:6 II Co. 3:6-8
 - 3. The Spirit gives you spiritual life. 8:11 Jo. 3:5f 6:63 Ga. 6:8
 - 4. It is only *in Christ*, that the Spirit's power sets men free. II Co. 3:17
 - 5. He frees us not only from the guilt, but also the corruption of sin. 7:6 Ga. 5:16
 - 6. Does the freedom portrayed here contradict the bondage of chapter 7? 7:14,23

IV. God has done for you what the law could not do. v. 3

- A. The law was weak because of your sinful flesh. v. 3a
 - 1. The law in and of itself is holy, righteous, good and spiritual. 7:12,14 3:19,20b,28 4:15 5:6 7:5,8,14 Ga. 3:10,21
 - 2. The law cannot deliver you from sin. 3:20,28 7:5,8 Ga. 3:21
 - 3. The fault is not with the law, but with our sinful flesh. 7:14
 - 4. We are completely helpless. 5:6
- B. God had done for you what the law could not do. v. 3b Acts 13:38-39
 - 1. The Father planned your redemption from before the foundation of the world. 8:29-30 Eph. 1:4f
 - 2. He demonstrates His love by *sending His own Son*. 1:4 5:10 8:32 Jo. 3:16 1:14,18
- C. The Person of Christ: He came *in the likeness of sinful flesh*. v. 3c
 - 1. The Son was *sent*, implying His pre-existence and eternity. John 1:1,14
 - 2. The Son is sinless, not *in sinful flesh*. II Co. 5:21 Heb. 4:15 7:26 9:14 I Pe. 1:19 John 8:46 Mt. 5:17 Lu. 1:35
 - 3. The Son is truly human, not *in the likeness of flesh*. 1:3 9:5 Jo. 1:14 I Ti. 3:16 I John 4:2 1:1
 - 4. The Son has fully entered into our human condition. Phil. 2:7 II Co. 8:9 He. 2:17

D. The work of Christ: He was sent *for sin*. v. 3d 3:24-25 Ga. 3:13 He. 9:28 10:6,8 13:11
II Co. 5:21 Is. 53:4-8 I Pe. 2:24 John 1:29 Lev. 4:3 Nu. 8:8 Ps. 39:6

E. The Father condemned our sin in the sinless humanity of His Son. v. 3e 8:32
Isa. 53:10,4 Mark 10:45 John 1:29 10:11,15

V. Now the requirement of the law is fulfilled in you. v. 4

A. In what sense is the requirement of the law fulfilled in us. v. 4a

1. The righteous condemnation demanded by the law has been satisfied through Christ our substitute to whom our sins have been imputed. 3:24-26 5:9,18
2. The righteous perfection of the law has been satisfied as Christ's perfect righteousness has been imputed to us. Mt. 5:17 II Co. 5:21
3. Now that we have been set free the law of sin and death, we are able to fulfill the law by bearing fruit of righteousness through the Spirit's power. 7:4b,6b 13:8
Ga. 5:14 Jer. 31:33 Ezek. 11:19-20 36:26-27 Heb. 8:10

B. We are now walking a new walk. v. 4b

1. We no longer walk according to the flesh. 7:4 I Th. 1:9
2. Instead we walk in the Spirit. 7:6b
3. God's goal in your salvation is your holiness. I Th. 4:3 Eph. 2:8-10
 - a. The Father chose you to be holy. Eph. 1:4 I Pe. 1:15
 - b. The Son died that you might be holy. Titus 2:14
 - c. The Spirit indwells you that you might bear the fruit of holiness. 7:4,6

C. Are you walking in the Spirit?

1. Every Christian walks in the Spirit. 8:9
2. What does it mean to walk in the Spirit? Ga. 5:16f
3. How does walking in the Spirit relate to being filled with the Spirit or being baptized by the Spirit? Acts 2:4 13:9,52 4:8,31 9:17 Eph. 5:18 Mt. 3:11 Jo. 1:33
Acts 1:5 11:16 I Co. 12:13
4. What is God's part and what is our part in sanctification? Phil. 2:12-13

VI. Concluding applications

Discussion questions for family worship.

1. What is the condemnation from which we have been delivered? v. 1
2. Who has been delivered from condemnation? v. 1
3. How does verse one bring assurance to Christians?
4. Who is the Holy Spirit? What does He do? v. 2
5. In what sense was the law weak? v. 3
6. What did God do that the law could not do? v. 3
7. What does it mean that the Son was *in the likeness of human flesh*? v. 3
8. How does the work of the Son ensure that we are not under condemnation? v. 3
9. How is the requirement of the law fulfilled in us? In more than one way? v. 4
10. What does it mean to walk according to the Spirit?