

Exegetical Notes - Romans 8:1-11

**“No Condemnation”**

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**Romans 8:1-11**

**Verses 1-4**

***Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,<sup>2</sup> because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.<sup>3</sup> For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh,<sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.***

- The passage begins with the word “therefore.” All that Paul is about to say is true because of what he just said. Chapter 7 ends with the words “Thanks be to God---through Jesus Christ our Lord! I myself in my mind am a slave to God’s law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.” Paul’s heart’s desire is to please God even though he still sins.
- But he knows that he is no longer condemned by his sin because Jesus Christ, who had no sin, took Paul’s sin and ours upon himself. Jesus died in our place to set us free from sin.
- Because we were unable to keep the law perfectly the law was weakened. It could not bring us salvation because we could not obey it.
- Jesus was sent to earth to live a perfect life according to the law and then to die, even though he was free from the wages of sin, death, since he had no sin. In him, the requirement of the law, that sinners must die, was met.

**Verses 5-8**

***<sup>5</sup> Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.<sup>6</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.<sup>7</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is***

***hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.***

- People who have not accepted Jesus as their Savior still live to satisfy their sinful nature. They do not seek the things of the Spirit. They do not seek to live for or to please God.
- People who have accepted Jesus as their Savior seek to do the will of God and to please God even though they are not yet perfect.

### **Verses 9-11**

***<sup>9</sup> You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.***

- If you know Jesus as your Savior you will not live as do those who do not. Christians live in the realm of the Holy Spirit. Non-Christians live in the realm of the flesh. The difference will be reflected in their behavior.
- Even though Christians experience physical death, because of what Jesus has done for them, they are free from death and will live eternally with Jesus. This is not true for those who reject Christ.
- Those who have accepted Jesus will be raised with him eternally, even though their physical bodies die. Those who reject Jesus will not be raised with him eternally after they die physically. But for those who believe in Jesus Christ, there is now no condemnation. He died to set us free.

(These exegetical notes are the foundational study for the sermon entitled *No Condemnation*. They have been prepared by the Reverend Doctor Charles H. Jensen, Interim Senior/Lead Pastor at Cornerstone Fellowship, Coatesville Pennsylvania. All rights are reserved by *Cornerstone Fellowship* & The Reverend Doctor Charles H. Jensen. They are used here by permission.)