

Romans 7:25–8:4

Believers' Future and Past Union with Christ Assured by Our Present Union with Him

**Monday, July 3, 2023 • Read Romans 7:25–8:4**

*Questions from the Scripture text: What does he call his body? What is his initial response to this question (v25)? Through Whom will he be saved and thank God? How does he summarize his current experience? How is his standing different than his condition (8:1)? How much condemnation does who have? When? How don't they walk? How do they walk instead? What law helps those who walk according to the Spirit (v2)? In [union with] whom is God's law the law of the Spirit of life? From what has this new relation to the law set him free—how does he no longer relate to the law? Why couldn't the law set him free by itself (v3)? Who set him free? By sending Whom? In what "likeness" was He "sent"? On account of what was He sent? What did the Son do in His flesh? What did Christ's condemning sin in His flesh ultimately result in being fulfilled (v4)? In whom? How?*

**Why does walking in righteousness so encourage the believer?** Romans 7:25–8:4 looks forward to the sermon in the upcoming midweek meeting. In these five verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **walking in righteousness encourages the believer because it doesn't come from himself but from Christ.**

7:25 is a hinge verse. It concludes with a summary of vv13–25, but thanks "through Jesus Christ" is the hinge that connects to 8:1 and 8:2. Union with Christ is the key to all of the thoughts in these five verses.

**Union with Christ and our future,** 7:25. If we are in Jesus Christ, then though sin currently dwells in us (7:17, 20), it cannot do so forever. We will be delivered from both our death bodies and our indwelling sin.

**Union with Christ and our past,** 8:1a. The moment someone is in Christ Jesus, condemnation is over for him. Because He was displayed as a *propitiation*, it is impossible that any guilt could remain for someone who is in Him. If we are in Christ Jesus, we stand as completely and perfectly righteous before God in Him.

**Union with Christ and our present,** 8:1b–4. But how can we know that we are in Christ Jesus? By how we walk. If we are fulfilling the righteous requirement of the law—if we have come to agree with the law that it is good, and will to do good, and delight in the law of God according to the inward man, there is only one place that can have come from: the Spirit of life. Even God's good law couldn't do that to us, when we were still in our flesh (v3a). But Christ came in our flesh, except without sin. In His flesh, all of His actively obeying God's perfect law condemned all of the breaking of that law that Adam and his children do. In His flesh, His obediently offering Himself to suffer wrath, condemned all sin as guilty and deserving of that wrath. And if we now hate and condemn sin ourselves, if we are determined to walk according to the Spirit instead of according to the flesh, this walking has not come from the first Adam but from Christ Jesus. It is in Christ Jesus that the law has become "the law of the Spirit of life." So, when I do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit, it is a glorious demonstration that I am in Christ Jesus! My obedience doesn't remove my condemnation; it pleases God and me for the same reason: in that obedience, I see Christ Himself—that by His Spirit, I am in Him and He is in me. Hallelujah!

**What evidences of Christ-dependent, God-loving, law-loving battle do you identify in your own heart?**

*Sample prayer: Lord, we thank You that in Jesus Christ, our guiltiness of sin has been removed, and in Jesus Christ one day the presence of our sin will be removed. Grant unto us to walk in union with Him, we ask in His Name, AMEN!*

**Suggested songs: ARP32AB "What Blessedness" or TPH193 "Baptized into Your Name Most Holy"**

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Roman 7 verse 25. Through 8 verse 4. These are God's words. I thank god through jesus christ. Our lord. So then with the mind, i myself serve the law of god. Thoughts with the flash, the law of sin. There is therefore now, no condemnation to those who are in christ jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh.

But according to the spirit, For the law of the spirit of life in christ, jesus. Has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do and that it was week through the flesh. God, did by sending his own son in the likeness of sinful flesh on account of sin.

He condemned sin in the flesh. That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us. Who do not walk according to the flash. But according. To the spirit. So far, the readings of gods inspired. And an errant word. The apostle is rejoicing, he's thanking god through. Jesus christ.

His lord even though He has this sin that dwells in him, even though he has this remaining flesh even though it seems So constant that it is actually a law that evil is present with him. The one who wills to do good. So as long as he is in this world, as long as he is in this dying body, Now, evil will continue to be present with him yet.

He himself with his mind serves. The law of God. And so he knows that god who has brought him into this new condition of loving god's law in christ. Jesus is the one who's going to deliver him from his current condition of having evil present with him through jesus christ, our lord.

And so there are three things that he is sure of Uh, that are true for those who are in Christ, jesus. This is the The thing that ties from verse 25 in chapter 7 through especially verse 2 and chapter 8 but the thought is completed in verse 4 of chapter 8.

So in 725, he thinks god through jesus christ. Our lord that he will be delivered from the body of this death. At which point he will be delivered. From the presence of sin. So that's one thing. That is to come in christ jesus our lord deliverance both from this dying body and from the presence of sin.

And something. That there cannot be if you are in christ jesus. The second thing is there is therefore now, no condemnation. To those who are in christ jesus. You do not have to wait to be delivered from the presence of your sin in order to be delivered from the guilt.

Of your sin. If you are in christ jesus already, it's guilt is not being held against you. How does he know that it's guilt is not being held against him because if it's guilt was held against him, he wouldn't be able to love the law of god from Or to delight in it from.

Inner being, or to will to do good or to agree with the law that it is good. These are all things. That jesus christ has earned by righteousness that paul and all other ordinary descendants of Adam. Had demerited by our Guiltiness and yet he has them. So he says therefore there is no now no condemnation for those who walk in this way for The law of the spirit of life in christ, jesus.

Has made me free from the law of sin and death. In other words, there's only one way That he could be given the holy spirit that he could be given life. And that

is if Jesus is the one who has earned for him to receive the Holy Spirit. And so God's plan, for those who we would say those for whom Christ died, those two whom he gives his Spirit that they would be alive and believe in him, and be joined to him and be freed from condemnation and be freed from the power of the dominion of sin.

And able to love God's law. And a bet. They're all one group. This is the way that he has come. Um, Not to have to respond to the law in the way of sin, and the way in death, in the way of death, but now he can respond to God's law.

In the way of the Holy Spirit. Making them agree with the law will. Will to do good, the light in the law, call the, the law wholly, and the commandment, holy and righteous and good. All of these things have come to him in Christ Jesus in union with Christ.

And he underlines that. This is the only way that it can happen. Because the law verse 3 could not have done this by itself. The law was weakened by the flesh. Uh, so God's good law apart from Christ, apart from the Spirit, when God's good law, Uh, came near, we would respond to it with sin.

We would respond to it with more death. And yet God has done by his Son. What the law can do for, what the law could not do and that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh. So Jesus came, he didn't come and sin but he did come in true humanity so that we could be united to him.

Now when we are united to him, where we're united to him in his obedience and we reunited, we're united to him in his death and in both. His active obedience and his death, which we call his passive obedience because he willingly received what we deserved not because he didn't do anything.

We don't mean passive that that way, but he's the recipient of the action of God's wrath. In that case, as he willingly underwent in both his active obedience and in his suffering and death, Jesus condemned sin in the flesh. He condemned sin in his flesh. When in our flesh clothed in true humanity, Uh, he obeyed God's law, confirmed.

He is the original one. Who said the law is holy and the commandment is holy and righteous and good and he delighted in God's law in his inner being and he wet streams of tears because we did not uh because others did not obey his law. Jesus is the great singer.

Of Psalm 119. Of course, some of that he had been saying in union with us because he never had sin to be corrected for and there's some of that and some 119. But in the flesh, he condemns it. And anyone who has been around someone, who, Who's morality? Uh, whose conduct is holier and more righteous than their own feels.

That condemnation is uncomfortable. Uh, to be around someone who's Who's making? Holier more righteous choices, decisions actions at desires. Motivations etc, because righteousness condemns sin, just in there, being placed next to each other, just in their juxtaposition. And so, He condemned sin in the flesh by his By his obedience, which is counted as hours.

In union with him, when we believe in him and he condemned sin in the flesh. By offering himself to suffer. The wrath of God do to our sin. He does that not just to not merely to save us from the guilt and the penalty of our sin, but to affirm God's righteousness.

And pouring out wrath upon sin to agree with God. That it is wicked and it is worthy of wrath. And there's even an extent to which in the mystery of God. That the sun is boring, wrath out on himself. For God. Judges and punishes said and so, according to his divine nature, he's pouring out the rash.

And according to his human nature, he is suffering the wrath all at once. And we should not expect that, we would be unable to unravel. That or get our our minds around it. And yeah, this is more of a proof that it is true. Than a disproof because if we could then it would be unlikely that it was A divine.

Um, And glorious truth about the weightiest, most, Profound thing that has That has ever happened. So Jesus condemns sin in the flesh in two different ways and that enables us to obey in two different ways. First, Uh, his atoning for our guilt delivers us, Uh, from The just Uh penalty from God that we would remain in bondage to our sin that we would remain in our sinfulness that we'd remain in our fleshliness and therefore we the only resource from which we would be able to respond whenever we're in a situation.

We're making a moral decision which is continually would be our fleshliness or our sinfulness and we would only ever sin and God's law to us than when it comes. And it tells us what is righteous? And it commands us to do it as righteous. If all, we have to respond from as our sin, And our death, how are we going to respond to God's good law with sin and death?

Uh, but the atoning work of Christ has delivered us from that bondage. Uh the death penalty has been paid. The marriage to sin and death. That is ours from the covenant of works that we transgressed. And Adam that marriage is over has been ended by death. We are free from the authority of sin and death but we don't just have the passive obedience of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have the active obedience of the Lord Jesus Christ. The one two who we are united, the one in whom we are. Now we're no longer in the flesh. We are no longer in ourselves. We are in Christ. And he is a law loving law, keeping law obeying sin condemning Christ.

And so it's in him and in our union with him, That we are. Able to and love to and purpose to Walk. According. Uh, to God's good law. And that's And that's how verse 3 relates to verse 4. It is our union with Christ and both his passive. Obedience was releases us from penalty and his active obedience, which empowers us unto righteous walking.

Um, he condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk. According to the flesh, not have to anymore. But according to the Spirit. And what does that mean? According to the life of Christ to whom we are united.

As his he and his life are applied to us by his Holy Spirit. And so, when we walk, In righteous way, we show that we have been delivered from the power of sin. We show that we are united to a righteous Christ. We show that he has kept his promise important, his Spirit, we show the glory of the Holy Spirit who enables us to love, what is good and do, what is good.

We bring great honor and praise to God and one of the things that we show is that having been united to Christ? Our guilt has gone. There's no condemnation. So, it's in Christ that the past present and future of the believer are all about us. It's in Christ that passed, our condemnation has been removed forever.

It's in the present. That we are no longer under the power of sin. We no longer. I have to walk according to the flesh. Now we walk according to the Spirit that's in Christ too. And it's in Christ, verse 25 of chapter 7. That we will finally be delivered even from the presence of sin.

And from the body of this death, All of those things come in union with Jesus Christ, past present and future for the believer. Um, And so this, Uh, helps us. I hope take this. No condemnation which is so precious to us in verse 1. But we see how it's tied to our current condition.

Which is in the same union with Christ and it gives us confidence for our future, deliverance. Which comes from the same. Union with Christ.

Amen, let's pray. Our gracious gardener heavenly father, thank you. For how your son and his. Active and passive obedience. Have done all for us. Thank you for how your spirit. Applies him himself to us. That we may stand before you as beloved children. Justified saints. We pray, lord. That you would not let us walk according to our flesh and die.

Forgive us of god. For having done. So so much. We're grateful to you. That the removal of the condemnation comes first. That we may be freed repeatedly. As we come to you in new repentance and Needing you forgiveness. With new resolve. We thank you that. Some of that resolve may be genuinely from christ by your spirit.

Help help us. We pray. To walk according to your spirit and not according to the flesh. For, we ask it in jesus name. Amen.