

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).

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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
