

“The Life-Giving Spirit” Romans 8:10-13 Largent 2/4/2024

- **RECAP- Going back to the beginning of Romans we learned that all people are born sinful and separated from God.**
- **The Gentiles rebuttal is, “We didn’t even know the rules. You didn’t give us the law” God’s response is the law was in creation and in your heart.**
- **And the Jews are like, Yeah, that’s right. Those gentiles are sinful, but we’re right with God because we’re His circumcised chosen people.**
- **Paul lets them know they too are condemned because though they received the law, they haven’t kept it. Romans 3:23 says, “for all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus”.**
- **What that means is no matter if you are Jewish or not, there is only one way anybody in the world is ever righteous before God. By trusting Jesus.**
- **But the Jews are still hung up on the idea that they are right with God because of circumcision, so Paul shows them that Abraham was righteous before he ever got circumcised. He became righteous when he believed God.**
- **Which leads us to wonder what purpose the law and commandments have, if they can’t make us righteous? Shows we are sinners - need savior.**
- **So, we became righteous through faith in Jesus and that not only made us right before God, but it freed us from the bondage of sin. We were slaves.**
- **We were freed from that bondage to sin and the law because death frees you from the law - A woman’s free to remarry when her husband dies.**
- **Which leaves us in our current condition. In Christ, we died to sin and the law and are raised spiritually righteous and alive in Christ, but we still have flesh – Our bodies are yet unredeemed.**
- **Last week I told you there are two types of righteousness – WHO WE ARE RIGHTEOUSNESS vs VISIBLE RIGHTEOUSNESS. And obviously, we are supposed to visibly see righteousness in our lives, not perfectly like our redeemed spirit in Christ, but we should see righteousness manifested in our earthly life.**
- **And for this to happen we must set our mind on the Spirit and not on the flesh. Because you will not be able to live righteousness in the flesh. The Power to live a godly life comes from the Holy Spirit who lives in you.**
- **So, you might think, “Well does that mean I don’t do anything except change my thought about myself? Is this just mental Gymnastics?” No. But that’s where Paul starts, with reminding you of who you are in Christ. “There is therefore no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”**
- **That said, you are active in the process. You have a will. You make decisions! But the power is not in the flesh. You & the Spirit - both active.**
- **The fact that the Spirit of God is in you, and you know that because the Spirit is active, is the evidence that you are in Christ. ⁹ 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.**

- **So, the evidence that you are, in fact, a Christian and you belong to Christ is that you have the Holy Spirit in you. (The Spirit of Christ, The Spirit of God (They all mean the same thing),**
- **In Acts, the evidence that Gentiles and Samaritans could be baptized was that they had received the Holy Spirit and usually spoke it tongues as a sign of that.**

And here’s the result . . .

¹⁰ 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.

- **So even though your physical body is going to die because of sin, that’s the direction your physical body is headed toward. The Holy Spirit gives you life because you are righteous in Christ. Notice it doesn’t say, “The Holy Spirit will give you life. . . “ – put a pin in that.**
- **And this is how the Spirit does that. . . .**

¹¹ 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.

- **Ok this is tricky. Paul says that since the Spirit of God that is in you and I is the one that raised Jesus from the dead, that same Spirit will give life to our mortal bodies.**
- **Not most commentators read this as “since Holy Spirit raised Jesus, the Holy Spirit will raise you someday.” But that’s not what I see.**
- **There’s a difference between a dead body, like Christ and a mortal body like ours. Christ’s body was dead. Our bodies are mortal, “they are going to die.”**
- **I think this is talking about what the Spirit does in us now! It gives life to this mortal body.**

Even though sin in our mortal bodies is going to majorly tempt us with great fleshly power, the life-giving Spirit that raised Christ from the dead lives in us & is stronger than the flesh & enables us to say, “NO” to it.

- **Why? Because where there was only death in our sinful flesh, now there is life. The Spirit gives life to our mortal bodies because He lives in us.**
- **Note that the trinity is clear in these passages. The Holy Spirit and Spirit of Christ and Spirit of God are used interchangeably about the same Spirit.**
 - 1. The Holy Spirit living in you is Christ living in you. God in you.**
 - 2. Who raised Jesus? Jesus said he can lay his life down and take it back up again. Here its the Spirit of Him who raised Christ from the dead.**

¹² Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh, you will die but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

- **You used to live & do & act because you were forced to. You were a slave. But now notice, with our freedom, it’s by obligation. And not to our flesh.**
- **German Panzer vs M1 Antitank Rocket Launcher or (bazooka).**