

SERIES: THE BOOK OF ROMANS

Topic: Living in Christ: *Freedom and Responsibility*

Text: *Romans 8: 1-17*

A BIT OF BACKGROUND...

The church in Rome had been started by the Roman Jews who were converted possibly on the day of Pentecost.

The church was a mixture of Jewish and Gentile believers and were experiencing some tensions between the two groups.

The big issue in this letter is ***how anyone can be declared righteous and stand free of condemnation before God.***

In light of the tension between the two groups, Paul makes it clear that all stand condemned before Him because everyone is a sinner, and no one has kept the law.

Paul asserts that right standing comes only through faith in Jesus Christ who died for us as a sacrifice for sin.

Talking about *Living in Christ: “Freedom and Responsibility”*

OUR FREEDOM

In Christ Jesus, I am free from condemnation.

The status of ‘*no condemnation*’ is reserved exclusively for those who are ‘*in Christ Jesus.*’

As a believer, there is no damnation sentence hanging over your head.

There is no eternal death sentence for you.

When God says, ‘*no condemnation*’, it is irrevocable, irreversible, declared by God to be true forever.

In Christ Jesus, the law of the Spirit of life governs my life.

² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

Also read *Colossians 1:13*.

Paul presented 2 different kinds of government and 2 kinds of laws.

Each government has their own laws:

- *The kingdom of light that is governed by the law of the Spirit of life; and*
- *The kingdom of darkness which is governed by the law of sin and death*

In *the kingdom of darkness*, the law of sin and death operates, which always leads to sin and produces death.

In *the kingdom of light*, the law of the Spirit of life operates, which always releases and produce life.

Paul mentioned that “*the law of the Spirit of life has set me free from the law of sin and death.*”

Paul is saying to us because we are now in Christ, we are now under God's government, we are now under the kingdom of light and the law that operates in our life now is the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus.

We are governed by the law of His kingdom.

The law of the Spirit of life takes over and defies the law of sin and death.

Ex. *Law of gravity and the law of aerodynamics*

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

Living in Christ, there is freedom but there is also a responsibility that goes with it.

We need to be **spiritually minded** and to be **led by the Spirit of God.**

Read *Romans 1:5-8 and 12-14*

We need to walk in faith. It simply means walking according to God's Word.

Read *Romans 10:17.*

We need to walk in the Spirit. Walking in the spirit is to develop God-consciousness. We should always be aware of His Spirit's outworking and activity.

Read *Galatians 5:16-18*.

We need to discipline ourselves. Discipline is the one thing that Christians need the most but want the least.

1 Corinthians 9:27 – I don't allow my body to do what it wants to do, but I make my body do what it should do.

We need to examine ourselves. We need to ask some hard questions to ourselves and see if we fail or pass the test of genuine faith.

2 Corinthians 13:5 NLT

Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith.