

LESSON 14: ROMANS 8:1-17
SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

OVERVIEW

- . No condemnation – Romans 8:1-4
- . The carnal person and the true Christian – Romans 8:5-8
- . Deliverance from our sinful natures – Romans 8:9-17

NO CONDEMNATION – ROMANS 8:1-4

- . “Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus”
Romans 8:1
 - . Everything else in Romans 8 flows from this declaration
 - . This is a foundational pillar of Christianity
- . Four key words – Romans 8:1
 - . Condemnation
 - . Word that embraces both the sentence of God against sinners and the execution of that sentence
 - . Most people think they are basically good people
 - . This is not about being good, rather being right with God
 - . Now
 - . Word pointing to the change that has come about as a result of believers entering into the justification Jesus Christ made possible by His death
 - . Word also implies that this state of salvation has taken place now, not at some time in the future
 - . No
 - . The Greek word used here is *Ouden*, which is much stronger and more declarative than just our word no
 - . There is an absolute implied here
 - . Therefore
 - . This word refers us back to the entire epistle teaching that it is because of God’s work in Jesus Christ and because of the application of it to us by the Holy Spirit that there is no more condemnation
- . God’s work, not ours – Romans 8:2-4
 - . With the words that Paul speaks in verse 1, we recognize that now all human beings fall into one of two types of conditions
 - . Regenerate – born anew into Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit
 - . Unregenerate – still living in a condition where you are a slave to sin

- . No condemnation can be considered the heart of the Gospel
 - . God sent His Son," in the likeness of" sinful man, to be a sin offering, that is, making propitiation for sin
- . This is a gift that God offers up freely to all sinners, not based on something we earned
- . Christian holiness – Romans 8:3-4
 - . Sanctification is God's imparted power to live a Holy life of deliverance from sin and obedience to God
 - . Holiness is justifications goal
 - . Holiness consists of fulfilling the laws just demands
 - . Holiness is the work of the Holy Spirit
 - . Holiness is mandatory
 - . A Christian will have a growing desire to please God and live a Holy life set apart for God's good purposes

THE CARNAL PERSON AND THE TRUE CHRISTIAN – ROMANS 8:5-8

- . The carnal (Greek word is *sarx* meaning fleshly) person is still living in their unregenerate state
 - . This word implies they are still living in the flesh, a slave to the sin that lives within them
 - . This type of person still has their minds set on earthly desires
 - . This is often described as worldly thinking
 - . At the heart of this type of thinking is putting self first
 - . The state of the unregenerate person is spiritual death
 - . This person is unresponsive, or dead to the truths of God
 - . Often times these truths seem foolish to them
 - . The unregenerate person may have a moral code that aligns itself with God, but they may not associate it with God
 - . A moral person can at the same time totally reject God, which doesn't make them right with God
 - . An unregenerate person cannot please God because they have chosen to ignore God
- . The characteristics of a true Christian are the exact opposite of a carnal person
 - . A true Christian has their mind set on what the Spirit desires
 - . A true Christian has a heartfelt desire to align his thinking with God's
 - . A true Christian should be displaying outward actions that are a reflection of God's love
 - . A true Christian has been made alive by God's Spirit and will start to see a whole new world of reality
 - . Along with this new reality will come a peace that will allow one to better weather the storms of life

DELIVERANCE FROM OUR SINFUL NATURES – ROMANS 8:9-17

- . The Christian's past, present and future – Romans 8:9-11
 - . The Christian's past – Romans 8:9
 - . Christians were all dominated by their sinful nature at one time
 - . The Bible was a strange and closed book
 - . The Christian's present – Romans 8:10
 - . The Christian spirit has been made alive by the Holy Spirit whom the Father sent to do precisely that
 - . We have become alive to God
 - . Although there is still much to do and although His ways can still be strange and puzzling, Christians do not feel that God is unreal
 - . The Christian has become alive to God's Word
 - . Christians become alive to the work of God in other Christians
 - . The Christian's future – Romans 8:11
 - . If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through the Spirit who lives in you
- . The moral imperative – Romans 8:12-14
 - . An inescapable obligation
 - . Christians have an obligation to live according to the Holy Spirit, rather than according to the sinful nature
 - . Christians have been delivered from the wrath of God against them for their sin and been brought into an entirely new realm
 - . Christians have been given a new nature and made alive to spiritual things
 - . No new teaching
 - . There is nothing else we can do
 - . The only direction we can go is forward
 - . The Holy Spirit, as the Father's agent is saving us
 - . The Holy Spirit joins us to Christ
 - . Belonging to Christ, the past is now dead for us and we must live as what we truly are

NEXT LESSON – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2020 – ROMANS 8:18-27