

**Prayer:**

**Slide # 1**  
**Romans**

**Theme:** The Righteousness of God – The Gospel of God

**Outline:**

- **Prologue:** 1:1-17
- **Doctrinal:** 1:18-8:39  
God's holiness – man's sinfulness – 1:18-3:20  
Justification by grace through faith – 3:21-5:21  
**Sanctification of the believer – 6:1-8:39**
- **Dispensational:** 9:1-11:36 (The place of Israel and the church)
- **Practical:** 12:1-15:33 (Duties and privileges of the believer)
- **Epilogue:** 16:1-27

**Slide # 2**

**The Flow of Thought in Romans...**

- **Universal Sin Problem** – Rom. 1-3a
- **Justification** by Faith Alone – Rom. 3b - 5
- **Sanctification** – Rom. 6-8

The good news of the gospel is that Christ has died and rose again to deliver the believer from sin. He delivers us from the penalty of sin in justification; He delivers us from the power of sin in sanctification, and He ultimately delivers us from the very presence of sin in glorification.

**Slide # 3**

Romans 8:1 tells us we are free from the *guilt* of sin. Romans 8:2 tells us we are free from the *power* of sin. – **David Guzik**

As believers, we have a war going on inside between our old sinful nature (which still resides in us) and our new nature (which is our new real identity in Christ). Romans 7 describes this conflicted state.

But then Romans 8 adds an additional reality: that as believers, we now have the Holy Spirit living in us. And that changes everything in terms of the power to live for God. The power is God Himself living inside of us.

A study of Romans 7 shows how much that chapter is dominated by the words “I,” “me” and “my”. In contrast, Romans 8 is dominated by the Holy Spirit, who is mentioned no less than nineteen times in the chapter. The new Lord in the believer’s life is the Holy Spirit of God.

– **John Phillips**

This reality of the Holy Spirit now living inside of us changes everything. The dominating reality of our life has now changed. It’s not like the flesh and the Spirit are now equals in the life. No, Paul is about to show us that the Spirit has now taken over the lead role. Yes, we still struggle with sin, but the Holy Spirit’s prevailing dominant role is inescapable.

In Romans 8:4, Paul contrasted those who walk according to the flesh with those who walk according to the Spirit. He now goes on to clearly show that this represents a contrast between the non-Christian and the Christian. A person’s walk is their lifestyle pattern, and it is telling!

### **Romans 8:5–11 (NKJV)**

**5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.**

Paul summarizes his contrasting point here. Those who live (present tense as a continual life pattern) according to the flesh (the sin nature) set their minds on the things of the flesh. This is the whole orientation of their mindset. It is where they live in their minds as a rule or way of life. Their mindset relates to the desires of their heart, which are totally flesh-oriented.

### **Slide # 4**

This expression (“to set the mind on”) denotes far more than a mental process. It includes not only concentration of thought but also **desire** (cf. Phil. 2:5ff.; Col. 3:2). – **Expositors**

### **Slide # 5**

**Ephesians 2:3 (NKJV)**

**3** among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

Paul in Romans 8:5a is describing those in bondage to sin. They live according to the flesh. This is their lifestyle pattern. They live according to their sinful nature as a pattern of life. It's who they are by nature. Their basic disposition is totally flesh oriented as they do not have the Spirit.

Note that Paul, as a believer (even in the midst of his struggle with sin), says in Romans 7:25, “***With the mind I myself serve the law of God***” – and right there is the distinction!

Note that he does this with his mind! His desire is to serve God even though he still feels the pull of the flesh. This mindset is in contrast with those who live according to the flesh, who have their whole mindset governed according to the things of the flesh (cf. Rom 7:18).

In contrast to those who live according to the flesh, are those who live according to the Spirit, who set their mind on the things of the Spirit. In salvation, we have had a complete overhaul of our mind. We now think differently! The very word “repentance” means to have a change of mind. Saving faith is a change of mind kind of faith involving a radical and fundamental change of mind that forever alters the life.

A true believer is now ultimately God-oriented in their very mindset. It's called repentance! In their inner nature they now desire God and the things of God. Consequently, the whole pattern of their life is changed – even though they still struggle with sin. The great challenge in the Christian life is to live consistent with who we are as a new man in Christ.

Really, what Paul is teaching is that we live out who we are – not totally consistently – but certainly. We think and function according to our real nature. Those in bondage to the flesh think accordingly. Those with a new nature think accordingly.

As I said last week, the very fact that we struggle with sin is one major proof that, indeed, we have a new nature that desires to do the will of God. Unbelievers do not have this struggle as they only have one nature – namely, the sin nature (also called the flesh). If all you have is the flesh (sin nature) then it goes to reason this will be the controlling reality in your life. A person might put up a front but that doesn't change the reality. Putting lipstick on a pig does not change the nature of the pig. And this is the point: The very nature of a Christian is that of a changed person.

Paul in Romans 8:5 is drawing a great contrast between those who live according to the MINDSET of the flesh as a lifestyle pattern and those who live according to the MINDSET of the Spirit as a lifestyle pattern. Those who live according to the Spirit now have the Spirit as their regulating principle. Their whole orientation is now different!

We talk about the Christian who walks after the spirit and the Christian who walks after the flesh. But God never talks that way. The contrast here is between Christians and non-Christians.

**- Alva McClain**

The expectation is that if you really have the Holy Spirit living in you it will make a difference in your life. Your whole MINDSET orientation is now different as a way of life. Even the struggle proves things are now different as you now HATE the very sin you find yourself doing (Rom. 7:15).

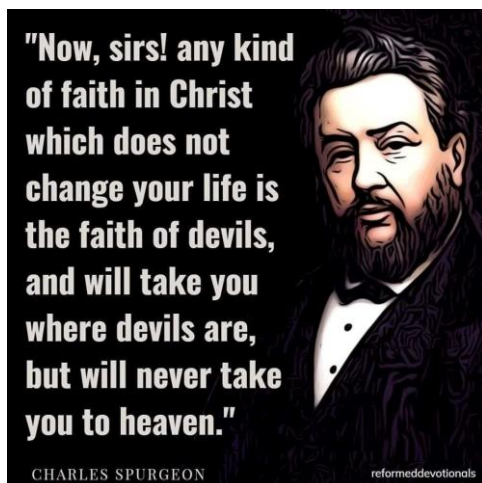
### **Slide # 6**

**1 John 3:7–8 (NKJV)**

**7** Little children, let no one deceive you. **He who practices righteousness is righteous**, just as He is righteous.

**8 He who sins is of the devil**, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

### **Slide # 7**



In regeneration our heart is changed – our desires are changed. We are now a new person. To be in a new covenant relationship with God means that the Holy Spirit has now come to live inside us and made us a new creation with a whole new orientation in terms of MINDSET!

**Slide # 8****Ezekiel 36:26–27 (NKJV)**

- **26** I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.
- **27** I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

**Slide # 9****2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)**

**17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

This new reality brought about by the Holy Spirit is now the dominating reality in the life and heart of the believer. The presence of the Spirit is inescapable. If we sin, we are convicted of it as the Spirit is grieved (Eph. 4:30). If we persist in sin God disciplines us (Heb. 12). We do not have the luxury to just walk in sin as a perpetual way of life. No, God is now in the mix – living right inside us – making this an impossibility.

In this world, there are only two kinds of people with two different mindsets. The unsaved have their mindset on the flesh, and in contrast, the saved have a Spirit oriented mindset – sadly, often, with interruptions, as we have noted.

**6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.**

A more literal translation here is: ***“For the mind of the flesh is death, but the mind of the Spirit life and peace.”***

A distinction is to be made between Paul saying, ***“I am carnal, sold under sin”*** in Romans 7:14 and having the mind set on things of the flesh. Remember Paul at the end of Romans 7 said, ***“with the mind I myself serve the law of God”***. Paul’s MIND as a believer is God-oriented, while at the same time, his flesh still serves the law of sin (Rom. 7:25).

But for the unbeliever their MIND is totally flesh governed and that is death (cf. Rom. 6:21). The word “death” means separation. Unbelievers are currently spiritually dead (separated from God spiritually) and if they die in their sin, they are headed towards eternal death (eternal separation from God in the lake of fire). The unbeliever is alive physically, but spiritually dead!

In contrast, the Spirit-minded person knows LIFE and PEACE. As believers, we now have ***“eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord”*** (Rom. 6:23). We now share in God’s life which is eternal. This life denotes union with God. We are now in a living relationship, with God that will never end because it is eternal. And eternal also refers to the quality of life that we now share in; namely in the very life of God.

And through faith we now ***“have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ”*** (Rom. 5:1). All is well between us and God. Peace is the idea of harmony where all is as it should be!

If you are according to Spirit, having been born of God, there is indwelling you a mighty One, the Comforter, whose whole mind, disposition, and manner of being and ruling within you, is life and peace. – ***William Newell***

**7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.**

***“The carnal mind”*** is more literally translated as ***“the flesh mind.”*** And note exactly how Paul states this: He didn’t merely say the carnal mind was *at* enmity with God, but rather stated it more strongly saying, ***“The carnal mind is enmity against God.”***

“It is not black, but blackness; it is not *at* enmity, but *enmity* itself; it is not corrupt, but corruption; it is not rebellious, it is rebellion; it is not wicked, it is wickedness itself.” – ***Charles Spurgeon***

“Perhaps no one text of Scripture more completely sets forth the hideously lost state of man after the flesh.” – ***William Newell***

The flesh mind is a mindset given over to the flesh—to the sin nature. It is in bondage to the flesh and controlled by the flesh, in which there is nothing good. In Romans 7:18, Paul said that nothing good dwells in the flesh. The sin nature is totally depraved and morally corrupt. This is the natural condition of the unsaved person.

### **Slide # 10**

**Genesis 6:5 (NKJV) [Prior the Flood]**

**5** Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that **every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.**

**Genesis 8:21 (NKJV)** [After the Flood]

**21** And the LORD smelled a soothing aroma. Then the LORD said in His heart, “I will never again curse the ground for man’s sake, although **the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth;** nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.

The Flood changed nothing in terms of the basic nature of mankind. The flesh mind by its very nature is at enmity against God. It is not neutral. It hates God. It is actively hostile against God. This is the mindset of every unbeliever. Even though they may want to act like they are “good” people yet Romans 3:12 says, “***There is none who does good, no, not one.***”

In contrast the mind (the disposition of the new nature) of the believer is now at peace with God. It loves God and desires to please Him. It now delights in the law of God as Paul says in Romans 7:22.

Furthermore, the flesh mind of the rebel unbeliever is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. It is present tense (as a continual pattern of life) not subject to God’s law. The flesh mind is a rebel mindset. It by nature has a problem with God – even though they may lie about it.

The flesh mind has a mind of its own. It wants to do its own independent thing free from the constraints of God’s law (Ps. 2:1-3). It’s all about self will instead of God’s will. It demands to be its own master. This is a Lordship issue. It refuses to bow before the Lordship of Christ.

Sometimes people think that this enmity against God is a description of just very overt wickedness like being a perpetual immoral person. But in truth self-righteousness moralist also fit the bill.

His list of “the works of the flesh” in Galatians 5:19-21 shows that we must not think, only of gross sensuality, for Paul includes such things as enmity, jealousy, and anger. There are many ways of manifesting a disposition that is confined to the flesh. – ***Leon Morris***

People often try to appear “moral” or “religious” for selfish reasons but underneath is really a rebel nature at enmity with God. The real issue is what are the true affections of the heart.

You see people may indeed do good things but still with wrong motives. Lots of people do good things for attention – to glorify self instead of God. Jesus spoke of those who would sound the trumpet to draw attention to their charitable giving. He called them hypocrites (Matt. 6:1-2).

### **Slide # 11**

#### **Isaiah 64:6 (NKJV)**

**6** But we are all like an unclean thing, And **all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags**; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

Even all the right things we do as an unbeliever are still soiled by sin and are totally unacceptable to God.

### **Slide # 12**

#### **Jeremiah 17:9 (NKJV)**

**9** **“The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked**; Who can know it?

### **Slide # 13**

#### **Jeremiah 13:23 (NKJV)**

**23** Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? Then may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil.

Note that the flesh – the sin nature in a person never gets any better. It is rotten to the core and this will always be the case. The flesh is always against God. It is never submissive to God’s law. It ever revolts and rebels.

For those who put great stock in worldly counseling we need to note the flesh cannot be changed. It cannot be reformed. This is why a person needs to be born again – born of God, as only God can fundamentally change people from the inside out.

But I want to emphasize to you as believers that even as a born-again Christian you still have the flesh – although your relationship to it has now changed. You are no longer in bondage to it although it is still present. But this sin principle still residing in you will never get better, and therefore you must constantly look to the Lord for His overcoming power.



**Slide # 14****Romans 13:13–14 (NKJV)**

**13** Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.

**14** But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and **make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.**

The point in Romans 8 is that the unsaved, who are flesh-minded and whom Paul goes on to describe as being “in the flesh,” cannot change themselves. They are not subject to the law of God, and neither can they be because their whole inward nature is fundamentally bent toward sin. This condition is so flawed that only a supernatural act of God can change it.

**Slide # 15****1 Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV)**

**14** But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; **nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.**

Apart from the Holy Spirit people are spiritually helpless. They cannot obey God because their very nature is to rebel. They cannot even know the things of God without the aid of the Spirit.

This is the great difference between the believer and the unbeliever. The believer has the Spirit living inside while the unbeliever does not. And that makes all the difference in the world.

**8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.**

Here is the bottom line. Those who are in the flesh are those who are unsaved who do not have the Spirit. They are governed by the flesh and never do any single thing to ever please God – no matter how many outwardly good works they may do! It’s all unacceptable to God!

Here is a good question to ask unbelievers: “Have you ever done anything to please God?” If they say, “Yes,” then ask them what that is. Then you can come back with Hebrews 11:6...

**Slide # 16**

**Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)**

**6** But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

The first thing one ever does that is pleasing to God is to put their faith in Him. And then of course they need to know what it truly means to BELIEVE on the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior. Everything starts there! Apart from faith no one ever does anything at all to ever please God (cf. Phil. 3:1-9).

Verses 7-8 are key verses, along with Rm 3:9-20, for the doctrine of total depravity (man's inability to obey God and his antipathy toward Him.) – ***The Moody Bible Commentary***

**Slide # 17*****DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNSAVED PERSON AS SEEN IN ROMANS 8:5-8...***

Live according to the flesh  
 Set their mind on the things of the flesh  
 Are flesh minded  
 Death  
 Enmity against God  
 Not in submission to God's law (Lordship)  
 Cannot please God

**9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.**

Here Paul puts forth the defining reality. You as a believer "are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you."

Those in the flesh are not saved and they do not have the Spirit. Those in the Spirit are saved and they have the Spirit. Here is the great divide between Christians and those who are not Christians. True Christians have the Holy Spirit while those who are not Christians do not.

And then just to make doubly sure we get it Paul says, "***Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ he is not His.***"

The person without the Spirit is not His – He does not belong to Christ. He is not a Christian. He is not saved.

The Spirit “dwells” in you as a believer. The word “dwells” (Gk. oikeo) means “to live in a house”. The Holy Spirit has now made His home in us.

The point is every true Christian has a higher power living in them Who is more powerful than the power of the flesh. We now have the almighty God living inside us! How is that for power?

The “Spirit of Christ” is clearly shown to be “the Spirit of God” as seen in the first part of the verse. This is the Holy Spirit (cf. Gal. 4:6).

“The Spirit of God” is also called “the Spirit of Christ”, and that to have the Spirit of Christ in us (9b) is to have Christ in us (10a). This is not to confuse the persons of the Trinity by identifying the Father with the Son or the Son with the Spirit. It is rather to emphasize that, although they are eternally distinct in their personal modes of being, they also share the same divine essence and will. In consequence, they are inseparable. What the Father does he does through the Son, and what the Son does he does through the Spirit. Indeed, wherever each is, there are the others also. – **John Stott**

This verse teaches us that every true Christian has the Spirit. To be “in the Spirit” is to have the Spirit indwelling you. Repeatedly the NT teaches that believers are now the temple of God (cf. Jn. 7:37-39; 14:17, 20; 15:26; 1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19-20; 1 Jn. 4:13).

### **Slide # 18**

#### **1 Corinthians 6:19 (NKJV)**

**19** Or do you not know that **your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you**, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

It is a very serious error to say that a person does not have the Spirit unless they speak in so called tongues – or to say that you get more of the Spirit if you do speak in tongues. The Spirit is a person, just like Father is a person and the Son is a person. You either have the person of the Spirit or you don’t have Him.

He is not like a liquid where you might have half a cup of juice. He is a person and you either have Him living inside of you or you don’t. It is an all or nothing proposition.

To be filled with the Spirit means to be controlled by the Spirit. You as a believer have all of the Spirit, the question is does He have all of you?

Jesus said the working of the Spirit is like the blowing of the wind.

### **Slide # 19**

**John 3:8 (NKJV)**

**8** The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. **So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.**

There is mystery here. We don't know where the wind comes from and where it goes. But we do see the effects of it. The effects of the Spirit when He comes to live inside a person is that of new desires and the fruit is seen in the fruit of the Spirit. This is the great evidence that one has the Spirit – it is seen in the fruit (Gal. 5:22-23).

The truth of the matter is that all believers have all of the Spirit from the moment of saving faith. After the transition period in the early church as seen in Acts this has been the norm throughout the Church Age.

This is one of the clearest statements in Scripture that corrects the false notion that baptism with the Spirit is a second work of grace for the Christian. – **Thomas Constable**

"Nowhere in Scripture do we find a clearer indication that the Spirit enters a person's life at the moment of conversion (cf. also [1 Corinthians 12:13](#)). – **Robert Mounce**

**10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.**

Paul here is illustrating two simultaneous realities in relation to the believer. Christ is in you – he has just established this as a reality. But the body is dead because of sin. Most agree that when Paul says the body is dead here he is saying it has the sentence of death in it. It is mortal meaning it is subject to death and destined to die. Paul repeatedly refers to our bodies as "mortal bodies" (Rom. 6:12; 8:11).

The bodies we live in are still prone to sin and are unredeemed. As Christian we are alive in our spirit and are a new man, but we live in old bodies still under the curse of sin.

We are redeemed in our spirit but we are still waiting for the day of redemption in terms of body. Our salvation in that sense is not yet complete.

### **Slide # 20**

#### **Romans 8:23 (NKJV)**

**23** Not only that, but we also who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves [**struggle with sin**], eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body [**totally released from all the effects of sin**].

So we have the living Christ living in our body that is destined to die. And the reason why the body is destined to die is because of sin. We still live in unredeemed flesh. It still has the sentence of death in it.

However, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. Some have thought that corresponding to the body is dead is the parallel that the human spirit (the new man) is now life because of righteousness.

However, the text very specifically says “**the Spirit is life**”. Within ourselves the human spirit is not life, but the Spirit within Himself is life. He is the “eternal Spirit” (Heb. 9:14). He is the source of life. He has inherent life within Himself. Back in verse 2 Paul calls Him “the Spirit of life” and verse 10 now builds on that reality.

In verses 9-11 every other use of pneuma [spirit] refers to the Holy Spirit. Further, Paul does not say “is alive” but “is life”. This is something that can be said of the Holy Spirit, but the human spirit is not “life”. – **Leon Morris**

The whole surrounding context is emphasizing the Holy Spirit and verse 11 goes on to talk about the life-giving Spirit giving life to Jesus in the resurrection.

So, I take it “the Spirit is life” in verse 10 is indeed the Holy Spirit as indicated in the NKJV.

And the implication is that as the Spirit of life He has now given life to our spirit. In Romans 6:4 Paul says believers should “walk in newness of life”. In Romans 6:13 he says to “present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead”.

In Romans 7:6 he says believers should now “serve in the newness of spirit”. So, the implication throughout is that the Spirit Who is LIFE has now given life to our spirit – which is to say the new man that is now identified with Christ in His resurrection life (cf. Rom. 6:5; Eph. 2:5).

And then Paul says, the Spirit is life “because of righteousness”. “Because of righteousness” is an interesting qualifier. In the verse there is a direct parallel in the Greek language between “dead because of sin” and “life because of righteousness”. Clearly, dead is shown to be the consequence of sin and consistency shows that life is the consequence of righteousness.

So what is this righteousness that results in life. Certainly, we have no righteousness of our own as we have noted. Many conservative commentators take this to be imputed righteousness which is put to our account at the moment of saving faith (cf. Rom. 5:17, 21).

In this passage righteousness cannot be understood in any other light than as imputed righteousness (cf. 1 Cor. 1:30). – **Expositors**

### **Slide # 21**

#### **2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)**

**21** For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

### **Slide # 22**

#### **Philippians 3:8–9 (NKJV)**

**8** Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

**9** and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

At great length Paul in Romans 4 shows the truth of imputed righteousness on the basis of faith alone (cf. Rom. 4:22-25). Therefore Paul is saying that on the basis of imputed righteousness given to us on the basis of faith we now have life from the Spirit of life.

Yes, we still have this “body of death” (7:24) that is a vehicle for sin that we struggle with day in and day out, but we also have the Spirit life living in us because of the reality of imputed righteousness.

Theologians battle over whether life comes first or faith. In my theology they are simultaneous. Where there is faith there is life and where there is life there is faith. You can't have one without the other. In Romans 8:10 Paul ties life with righteousness which I take to be imputed righteousness on the basis of faith.

But Paul has not yet completed his thought. Yes, we now have life by the Spirit of life which accounts for our new nature which is alive to God, but what about the body. It is mortal and dying – destined for death. But that is not the end of the story...

**11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.**

Again, the Spirit in view is God's Spirit – the Holy Spirit. All three members of the Godhead in various places are accredited with raising Jesus from the dead (cf. Acts 2:24; Gal. 1:1; 1 Pet. 3:18; Rom. 1:4; Jn. 2:19; 10:18; 11:25; Rev. 1:18). And again, when it comes to the Trinity – what involves one involves all three.

But the point here is just as the Spirit raised Jesus from the dead, if the Spirit is living in us then we can expect that He will also give life to our mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells us. Repeatedly the NT ties the hope of our resurrection to the truth of Christ's resurrection (cf. 1 Cor. 6:14; 2 Cor. 4:14; 1 Thess. 4:14).

Ephesians 4:30 says we are sealed by the Holy Spirit for the day of redemption. The Spirit's work in us will not be complete until that day. But it is a sure deal. It a Spirit-sealed deal.

The Bible teaches that as believers we have a "living hope" (1 Pet. 1:3). The word HOPE means a certain expectation. To us it is a certain reality that God will bring to pass. Yes, we do sorrow at the death of fellow believers, but not as those who have no hope (1 Thess. 4:13).

Resurrection in a glorified body will complete the redemptive work of God! Then the body will also be totally free from the effects of sin. Not only will we then be free from the penalty of sin and from the power of sin; but also from the very presence of sin.

We have life in the spirit now; we shall have life in the body at His coming. – **Alva McClain**

There is a bumper sticker that says, “**Life is tough and then you die.**” But for us as believers the ultimate destiny of our body is not death, but glorification. You are not going to get rid of your body, you are just going to get an upgrade – an eternal upgrade.

What a transformation that is going to be. Note the Spirit will give life to our mortal bodies. Right now they are in the process of dying. They have DEATH written over them. But on that day this mortal body you live in will be totally transformed into a glorified body that will be suited to live in eternity. It will never grow old or get weak or sick. It will never break down.

At the resurrection our bodies will not only cease to be dead but to be liable to death. -**Leon Morris**

### **Slide # 23**

#### **Revelation 21:4 (NKJV)**

**4** And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

In that day we will have a glorified body of the very same nature of that of the risen Lord.

### **Slide # 24**

#### **Philippians 3:20–21 (NKJV)**

**20** For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

**21** who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

Paul describes this as the time when “Death is swallowed up in victory” (1 Cor. 15:54). In 2 Cor. 5:4 he described it as mortality being swallowed up by life. Then all the vestiges of death will be forever gone! All will be LIFE forever and ever – life at its fullest in the very presence of God.



And Paul's point in the Romans 8 context is that the Spirit which has given us life, Who now lives inside us empowering us to live for God; this same Spirit will one day complete the work God has begun in us giving glorified eternal life to these mortal bodies.

A mortal body is a body capable of dying. A body made alive by the Holy Spirit becomes immortal. – **Wycliffe Bible Commentary**

The difference between the believer and the non-believer is the reality of the Holy Spirit. Believers have the Spirit and unbelievers do not. Believers now have a whole different mindset – a God-oriented mindset.

“One ship drives east and another drives west  
With the selfsame winds that blow.  
Tis the set of the sails  
And not the gales  
Which tells us the way to go.”  
- **Ella Wheeler Wilcox**

The great question is who sets the sails (so to speak) in your life? Is it the Holy Spirit or is it the flesh?

**The story is told of Martin Luther** who was preaching on grace one day. When he finished a man came over to him and said, “If what your preaching about grace is true, then a person could live any way he pleases.” Luther responded, “Now what pleases you?”

Aw, there is the question. If we have really been born of God the desires and affections of our heart have changed. This is all the work of the Holy Spirit. Paul as a Christian in his struggle with sin said, “I hate the sin that I do” (Rom. 7:15). He said, “I delight in the law of God according to the inward man” (7:22). He said, with the mind I serve the law of God (7:25).

Those in the flesh are at enmity against God and live accordingly. Those in the Spirit live according to the Spirit, not perfectly, but that is the bent and direction of our lives. It's as sure as the presence of the Spirit within us!

**“Now what pleases you?”** Those who truly know God desire to live for Him. This is evidence of the Spirit living inside and of being a new creation in Christ.

**“Now what pleases you?”**