

Studies In Romans

(Romans 8:1-13)

1. In whom is there no condemnation?

Those in Christ who walk not after the flesh: *“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit” (Romans 8:1).*

- Those in Christ not condemned (**John 3:18, John 5:24, Romans 5:1, II Corinthians 5:17, II Corinthians 5:21, and Ephesians 1:3-4**).
- Walk in the spirit rather than flesh (**Galatians 5:16-25**).

2. What did the law of the Spirit of life in Christ do?

Set man free from the law of sin and death: *“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death” (Romans 8:2).*

- **Romans 7:4-6.**
- Christ brought freedom from the Law and sin (**John 8:31-38 and Galatians 5:1**).

3. What weakness was there in the law?

Weak in the flesh in that it was carnal: *“For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh” (Romans 8:3).*

- The law could not (**Acts 13:38-39, Romans 3:20, Galatians 3:21, and Hebrews 7:18-19**).
- God sent forth His Son in the flesh (**Romans 9:1-5, Galatians 4:4-5, and I John 4:10-14**).
- In the likeness of sinful flesh does NOT mean He came in sin or ever literally became sin (**Hebrews 4:14-16, Hebrews 7:20-26, I Peter 2:21-22, and I John 3:5**).
- Condemned sin in the flesh (**I Peter 2:24**).

4. In whom is the righteousness of the law fulfilled?

“Us”, contextually the church in Rome (cf. **Romans 1:7**), Christians: *“That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit” (Romans 8:4).*

- **Ephesians 2:13-22 and Colossians 1:21-22.**
- Again, we should notice that we see the emphasis of “who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit”. Why? Consider: **I Peter 4:1-2**.

5. Would it be correct to say that carnally minded people cannot obey God?

Yes: *“(5) For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. (6) For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. (7) Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be (8) So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God” (Romans 8:5-8).*

- The contrast is of those after the flesh (**II Peter 2:10**) with those after the Spirit (**John 3:1-6**).
- The carnal mind does not grasp spiritual things (**I Corinthians 2:14-3:3**).
- The end result of following the mindset of this world is destruction (**Romans 6:19-21** and **Philippians 3:18-19**).
- Christians should steer clear of carnally motivated thinking (**Romans 13:14**).
- Spiritual thinking brings life (**Mark 12:28-30**) and peace (**Philippians 4:6-8**); which tie together (**Romans 5:1**).
- God’s view of carnal minds is clear (**Genesis 6:5-7** and **Proverbs 21:27**; cf. **James 4:8**).
- Evil minds cannot do good (**Matthew 12:34**). That’s why conversion has to start within (**Isaiah 55:6-9** and **Ephesians 4:23**).
- Plainly put, you have to choose between the world and God (**I John 2:15-17**).

6. If you are in Christ what had to die so that you could be spiritually alive?

The deeds of the flesh: *“(9) But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. (10) And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. (11) But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. (12) Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. (13) For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live” (Romans 8:9-13).*

- The carnal way of thinking and acting has to die to bring about the spiritual way of thinking and acting (**Romans 6:1-17** and **Colossians 3:1-17**).
- Prior to the completion of the word of God, men received the Spirit of God through the laying on of the Apostle’s hands (**Acts 8:12-24** and **Acts 19:1-7**).
 - This was a seal so that they could know they were God’s (**Ephesians 1:13**).
 - They then had spiritual gifts (**I Corinthians 12:1-11**) that have ceased (**I Corinthians 12:31; 13:8-13**).
- Consider also that the indwelling of deity is/has been used as a figure of speech (**I John 4:15-16**).
- Christ dwells in us through faith (**Ephesians 3:17**).