

Studies In Romans

(Romans 8:14-27)

1. What is one led by if they are sons of God?

The Spirit: *"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God"* (**Romans 8:14**).

- In our last study, we discussed how people had received the Spirit, prior to completion of the word 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**).
- Being led by the Spirit was literal as can be (**Matthew 10:16-20, John 14:26, John 16:13, Galatians 5:18, and I John 2:27**).
- Now, we are in a figure led by the Spirit in that the words we follow were delivered by the Spirit (**John 6:63** and **I Corinthians 2:9-16**).
- As we will address throughout this context, Christians are the children of God (**Matthew 12:46-50, II Corinthians 6:14-18, Galatians 3:26-29, and I John 3:1**).
- **Note - We MUST keep in mind that much of this context related to the supernatural, miraculous work of the Holy Spirit among men in the 1st century. We know there are no more Apostles (**Acts 1:15-22; cf. I Corinthians 15:8**) nor is there any more baptisms of the Holy Spirit (**Ephesians 4:5 and I Peter 3:20-21**).*

2. In Christ, prior to the full revelation of God, how would one know they are the children of God and no longer under bondage of the Law of Moses?

The Spirit: *"(15) For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. (16) The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God"* (**Romans 8:15-16**).

- **I Corinthians 2:12, II Corinthians 1:20-22, Galatians 4:1-6, II Timothy 1:7, and I John 4:13.**

3. With whom are Christians joint-heirs?

Christ: *"And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together"* (**Romans 8:17**).

- Joint-heirs (**John 12:25-26, John 17:24, Galatians 4:7, and Titus 3:7**).
- Suffer with Him shall then receive glory with Him (**Acts 14:22, II Timothy 2:12, and I Peter 4:13-16**).

4. Is any suffering we might face for Christ comparable to the reward we'll receive?
No: *"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us"* (**Romans 8:18**).

- How short is life (**Psalms 90:10** and **James 4:13-14**)?
- How long is Heaven in comparison to our time of suffering (**II Corinthians 4:17-5:1**)?
- Suffering is worth it (**Matthew 5:10-12**).

5. What does the "creature" wait for that "we ourselves groan within ourselves" for?
"(19) For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. (20) For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, (21) Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. (22) For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. (23) And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body" (**Romans 8:19-23**).

- The term "creature" [translated "creation" in NKJV, ASV, etc.] could refer to any created being that God observes (**Hebrews 4:13**).
 - The term "creature" could refer to human beings (**Mark 16:15-16**).
 - The term "creature" could refer to Christians (**II Corinthians 5:17**).
 - The term "creature" could refer to angels (**Ezekiel 10:15-17**).
 - The term "creature" could include animals of land and sea (**I Timothy 4:1-4** and **Revelation 5:13**).
 - We know we're not talking about "creatures" as in those animals which have no souls (**Ecclesiastes 3:21**).
- Manifestation of the sons of God (**I John 3:2**).
- Made subject to vanity COULD refer to death that was not willingly put on all creatures (**Genesis 3:17-19** and **Ecclesiastes 3:18-20**; cf. **Romans 8:22**).
- The clear point is, we are earnestly seeking the coming of our Lord (**Titus 2:13** and **Hebrews 9:28**) so that our vile bodies will no longer be (**Philippians 3:20-21**).

6. Do we have hope by sight?

No: *"(24) For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? (25) But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it"* (**Romans 8:24-25**).

- **II Corinthians 5:7**; cf. **Hebrews 11:1**.
- Salvation comes through hope (**I Thessalonians 5:8**), but not hope alone (**Acts 3:19**, **I Corinthians 15:1-2**, **Ephesians 2:5-10**, **James 2:14-26**, **I Peter 3:20-21**, etc.).
- Salvation and hope are tied to the resurrection (**I Peter 1:3**).
- We are still waiting for the full realization of salvation (**I Peter 1:9**).

7. Did the Spirit of God help with prayers?

Yes: *“Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered” (Romans 8:26).*

- Prior to completion of God’s instructions, they had no idea how to pray (**Luke 11:1**).
- Asking incorrectly occurred (**James 4:3**) and that prevents the answering of said prayers (**I John 5:14-15**).
- The Holy Spirit helped with prayer (**Ephesians 6:18** and **Jude 20**) just as He did with many other things too (**I Corinthians 12:3-11**).

8. Is/was the Holy Spirit capable of knowing what we think?

Of course: *“And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God” (Romans 8:27).*

- **Acts 5:1-10.**