

4. Romans 7:25b – Summary of the _____: *So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.*
 - a. In his _____ nature, Paul joyfully wanted to obey God's laws.
 - b. But on the other hand, with the sin nature dominating him, he gloomily _____ the law, or principle, of sin.
5. So, what is God's provision for living the Christian life? The specific details are not found in Romans 7. This leads us to Romans 8 and the ministry of the _____ Spirit in our sanctification.

IX. Romans 8:1-17 – The Doctrine of Sanctification and the Holy Spirit

A. Introduction

1. Paul's outcry in Romans 7:24 was, "*Wretched man that I am! _____ will set me free from the body of this death?*" And his answer in the next verse was, "*Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!*"
2. Through _____, God not only provided for our eternal deliverance, He also provided for our daily deliverance. In this chapter, Paul gave a detailed explanation of God's abundant provision for us in Christ.

B. Romans 8:1-4 – A new principle for living

1. Romans 8:1 – *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.* Now that God identifies us with Christ Jesus, we do not need to _____ that we will be eternally condemned. Romans 8:33-34
 - a. The word *condemnation* (KATAKRIMA) means to judge _____ of punishment. Believers are never in danger of being judged worthy of punishment and condemned to the Lake of Fire. John 3:18, 5:24
 - b. *...for those who are in Christ Jesus...* Our identification with Jesus Christ has _____ us from all condemnation. His righteousness has become our righteousness. If we were still condemned, Christ would be condemned as well, because as believers we are positioned *in Christ Jesus*. 2 Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 1:3-5, 2:4-7; Colossians 3:1-3
 - c. Because of being *in Christ Jesus*, no believer, spiritual or carnal, will _____ face eternal condemnation. Carnal believers often face severe and debilitating self-condemnation for their sinful behavior, but this verse is not referring to that miserable condition.
2. Romans 8:2a – *For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.* Not only are we free from the fear of condemnation, but we now enjoy a new principle – *the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus*. In this _____ position in Christ, we have been delivered from mandatory domination by the sin nature. Romans 7:25
 - a. Romans 8:2a – *For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free...* Notice Paul called this new principle *the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus*. Through the Holy Spirit, Christ is _____ in us. Romans 8:9-11

- 1) In Galatians 2:20 Paul confirmed this truth when he wrote, *"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but _____ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."* Colossians 1:27
- 2) In John 15:4-5 Jesus said, *"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I _____ him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing."*
- 3) Christ makes us _____. In Christ we have everything we need for living life abundantly. Colossians 2:9-10a says, *"For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete."*
- 4) Christ is our very _____. Colossians 3:4 says, *"When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory."*
- 5) For the apostle Paul, Christ gave life a _____ meaning. Philippians 1:21 says, *"For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."*
- 6) Paul's highest _____ in life was to be found righteous in conduct by relying on Christ. He did not want to go back to struggling to obtain some sort of legalistic, self-made righteousness.
 - a) Philippians 3:9 – *And may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the _____, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith.*
 - b) Philippians 3:10-11 – *That I may know Him and the _____ of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.*
- b. Romans 8:2b – The principle of the *Spirit of life in Christ Jesus ...has set you free from the law of sin and of death*. Because of our new position in Christ, we can now experience radical freedom from the _____ principle of sin and death.
 - 1) In the previous chapter, Paul vividly described the principle of sin and death. He candidly shared that when the sin nature was ruling him, it produced only death and _____. He had been trapped in an endless cycle of sin and failure, a living death.
 - 2) Under the new principle of *the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus*, God provides us with His Spirit so we can bear fruit for God. Instead of death and ruin, we are now free to experience abundant _____. Romans 7:6; Galatians 5:1, 16-18; Ephesians 4:17-24
3. Romans 8:3 – God _____ what the Law could never do.
 - a. Romans 8:3a – *For what the Law could not do weak as it was through the flesh...* Because of the way the sin nature takes advantage of God's holy and good Law, the Law has no power to _____ a person from sinning. Romans 7:8, 11-13, 17-18, 20, 23

- 1) When we were unbelievers, the Law could not _____ us before God. Romans 3:20, Galatians 2:16
 - 2) And now that we are believers, the Law cannot make us _____ in our daily conduct.
- b. Romans 8:3b – *For what the Law could not do...God did...* Paul was not speaking here only of our justification at the moment of _____.
- 1) Paul was referring to our _____ from the destructive principle of sin and death.
 - 2) God did what the Law was unable to do. God made a way for us to be able to daily _____ a righteous and victorious life.
- c. Romans 8:3c – *God did, sending His Own _____ in the likeness of sinful flesh...* The answer to our freedom from sin's domination is found in the coming of God's only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.
- 1) The phrase *in the likeness* (HOMOIOMA) *of sinful flesh* tells us that Jesus Christ was true humanity. He was _____ human. He had our exact form and resemblance. His human body was not different from our human bodies. Galatians 4:4, Philippians 2:6, Hebrews 2:17
 - 2) This verse does not imply, however, that Christ had the same sinful nature as the rest of humanity. If that were true, Christ would have been a sinner, but we know He _____ sinned. Isaiah 53:9, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22
 - 3) God sent His Son, as a genuine human, to accomplish what the Law was _____ to do, namely, bring righteousness to us all.
- d. Romans 8:3d – *God did: sending His own _____...as an offering for sin...*
- 1) The phrase *as an offering* was _____ by the translators and does not help our understanding.
 - 2) A better translation of this verse would be – *for what the law could not do... God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh* _____.
 - 3) The word _____ here is again singular, referring to the sin nature.
 - 4) Literally this is saying that God the Father sent His own Son for “the” sin. Christ came to deal with the sin nature in our lives. God sent Jesus, as a human, to _____ the sin nature problem for us.
- e. Romans 8:3e – *...He condemned sin in the flesh...* While on the _____, Christ condemned the sin nature that resides in our mortal bodies.
- 1) The purpose of Christ's death on the cross was not only to forgive our sins (plural), as we see in 1 Corinthians 15:3, it was also to condemn to death our sin nature. Not only did Christ deal with our sins, He also dealt with the _____ of our sins, namely the sin nature. Romans 6:10
 - 2) Through His death on the cross, Christ condemned the sin nature in us by rendering it inoperative (Rom. 6:6) and making it off _____. Romans 6:12

- 3) When a building is condemned, it is roped off because it is rendered inoperative and destined for destruction. Although the building continues in existence until the _____ of its destruction, it is no longer legally habitable.
 - 4) In a similar fashion, our sin nature is on death _____. It is going to be destroyed, either at the time of our death or at the rapture of the church.
 - 5) Even though any truthful believer will admit their sin nature still exists, most believers do not understand that their sin nature has been condemned by Christ and no longer has irresistible authority to _____ their lives.
- f. Romans 8:4 – *So that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.* Because your sin nature has been condemned, you are now _____ to live righteously.
- 1) As a believer, you can either _____ *according to the flesh* or *according to the Spirit*. You can live your Christian life either according to the principle of the spirit of life or according to the principle of sin and death.
 - 2) The believer who walks according to the Spirit will please God and experience the abundant _____. Galatians 5:16
 - 3) But the believer who allows himself or herself to be dominated by the sin nature will experience _____ of fellowship and eventual ruin. Galatians 6:8

C. Romans 8:5-8 – Characteristics of the mind set on the flesh and the mind set on the Spirit

1. Romans 8:5 – Paul contrasted a life influenced by the flesh, or the sin nature, with a life influenced by the Holy _____. Galatians 5:17
 - a. Romans 8:5a – *For those who are according to the flesh...* Unbelievers always live according to the flesh; that's their _____ recourse. Romans 7:5
 - 1) However, when believers _____ themselves to the sin nature, they are also walking *according to the flesh* and the results are the same.
 - 2) When believers walk according to their sin nature, they become _____, carnal and unspiritual in their behavior. 1 Corinthians 3:1-3
 - b. Romans 8:5b – *...those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh.* To set your mind on the things of the flesh means to _____ your thinking with the sinful desires of your sin nature.
 - c. Romans 8:5c – *...but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.* By contrast, those believers who walk according to the Spirit fill their minds with the things that _____ God.
2. Romans 8:6 – A mind set on the flesh experiences carnal death, while a mind set on the Spirit enjoys _____ and peace.

- a. Romans 8:6a – *The mind set on the flesh is death*. Death is a _____ here, emphasizing the miserable state of the person who sets his or her mind on the flesh. He or she will live a pointless life, devoid of purpose and without fruit. John 6:63
- b. Romans 8:6b – *But the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace*. The mind of the believer who walks according to the Holy Spirit is filled with life and _____.
 - 1) *Life* (ZOE) in this context implies _____ life. The result of walking according to the Spirit is abundant life. John 10:10, Ephesians 3:19, 1 Timothy 6:12
 - 2) If you walk according to the Spirit, you will be at peace. Most believers long to _____ true inner peace. John 14:27, 16:33; Philippians 4:7
3. Romans 8:7 – *Because the mind set on the flesh is _____ toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so*. Everything about the sin nature is contrary to God. Galatians 5:17
 - a. The _____ set on the flesh *is hostile toward God*. Christians who walk by the flesh are resistant to God. They often blame God for being distant or silent, whereas the real problem is their own carnality. Ephesians 2:3
 - b. The mind set on the flesh *does not _____ itself to the Law of God*. Those who walk by the flesh are not submissive to God's Word. They do not believe what God says nor do what He wants.
 - c. The mind set on the flesh *is not even _____ to obey God's Law*. It is impossible for the believer who walks by means of the sin nature to please God. Isaiah 64:6
 - d. When we lack peace, feel _____ from God, do not want to pray or experience multiple broken relationships, we are most certainly walking according to the flesh and not according to the Spirit. Christians who walk by the flesh are cold toward God. Galatians 5:16
4. Romans 8:8 – *...and those who are in the flesh cannot please God...* This statement is talking specifically about those who have not believed in Jesus Christ. Those who are *in the flesh* are unbelievers. Unbelievers are totally _____ to please God. Ephesians 2:1-3
 - a. Romans 7:5 says, "*For while we were **in the flesh**, the sinful passions, which were aroused by the Law, were at work in the members of our body to bear fruit for _____.*"
 - b. Even though this statement does not refer to believers, believers can _____ choose to walk according to the flesh and cease to please God just the same. Romans 8:4-5

D. Romans 8:9-11 – The believer is *in the Spirit*

1. Romans 8:9a – *However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit*. _____ are described as being *in the Spirit* rather than *in the flesh*.
2. Romans 8:9b – *...if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you*. All believers have the Holy _____ dwelling within them. John 14:17; Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30; James 4:5