

**Outline of  
the Messages for the Full-time Training  
in the Spring Term of 2022**

-----

**GENERAL SUBJECT:  
CHAPTERS FIVE THROUGH EIGHT OF ROMANS—  
THE KERNEL OF THE BIBLE**

Message Four

**Freed from the Law of Sin and of Death  
by the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus**

Scripture Reading: Rom. 7:17—8:2

**I. “There is now then no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus”—Rom. 8:1:**

- A. The condemnation mentioned in this verse is subjective, in our conscience, and is the result of our being inwardly defeated by the evil law of the indwelling sin, as described in 7:17-25.
- B. The blood of the crucified Christ is the remedy for objective condemnation under God’s righteous law—3:25.
- C. The Spirit of life, who is Christ processed to be the life-giving Spirit and who is in our spirit, is the remedy for subjective condemnation—8:10; 1 Cor. 15:45.
- D. In Romans 8 the phrase *in Christ* refers not only to our standing, our position, in Christ but also to a condition and to the reality of our daily walk in our regenerated spirit—vv. 1, 4, 10.

**II. “For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death”—v. 2:**

- A. A law is something that will give the same result anywhere and in every way when given the same action:
  - 1. There is power in a law; this is a natural not artificial power.
  - 2. A law remains the same all the time and allows no exceptions; it is a natural force that requires no human effort for its perpetuation.
  - 3. The problem of one law can be resolved only by another law.
  - 4. God has given us another law—the law of the Spirit of life—which spontaneously frees us from the law of sin and of death—v. 2.
  - 5. The law of the Spirit of life is the subject of Romans 8—v. 2.
- B. In Romans 8:2 law, the Spirit, and life are in contrast to law, sin, and death; the two laws are in opposition to each other, the Spirit is in opposition to sin, and life is in opposition to death.
- C. Instead of “the law of sin” and “the law of death,” Paul speaks of “the law of sin and of death”—v. 2:
  - 1. The law of sin and the law of death are not two laws but two aspects of one law.
  - 2. With respect to sin, this law has the habit to commit many sins; with respect to death, this law deprives one of the power to keep the demands of the law—7:17-19, 25.
  - 3. In Romans 8:2 *death* means to be weak to the uttermost, to be without any strength, and to be without life.
  - 4. Death is a law because weakness and powerlessness are our habitual experience.
  - 5. All the problems we encounter daily within ourselves are the result of the law of sin and of death.
  - 6. We need to see how evil the law of sin and of death is and hate this law.

- D. The Spirit and life are mentioned in Romans 8:2 but only in connection with the working of the law of the Spirit of life:
1. Life is the content of the Spirit, and the Spirit is the ultimate and consummate manifestation of the Triune God after His being processed through incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection and becoming the indwelling, life-giving Spirit, who is life to all the believers in Christ—1 Cor. 15:45; 2 Tim. 4:22; Gal. 6:18.
  2. The law that has freed us from the law of sin and of death is the law of the Spirit of life—Rom. 8:2, 11:
    - a. Both Satan and God, after entering into our being and dwelling in us, work within us not by outward, objective activities but by an inward, subjective law.
    - b. The working of the law of the Spirit of life is the working of the processed Triune God in our spirit; this is also the working of the Triune God in us in His life.
  3. The main function of the processed and consummated Triune God in indwelling our spirit as the law of the Spirit of life is to free us completely from Satan, who dwells in our fallen nature as the law of sin and of death—7:23-25:
    - a. It is the law, not God or the Spirit, that works in us to deliver us from the working of the law of sin in our flesh and to enable us to know God and gain God and thereby live Him out.
    - b. This law of the Spirit of life is the spontaneous power of the Spirit of life—8:2.
- E. We need to see that the law of the Spirit of life freeing us from the law of sin is not an experience outside of Christ but an experience absolutely in Christ—v. 2:
1. We need to realize that when we believed into Christ, we entered into Christ—John 3:15.
  2. We have been delivered from the sphere of Adam and transferred into the realm of Christ, in whom we experience the law of the Spirit of life—Rom. 5:12-21:
    - a. In Christ we have the Spirit of life, who is Christ Himself as the life-giving Spirit, in our spirit—1 Cor. 15:45.
    - b. In Christ our spirit has been made alive with Christ as life—Rom. 8:10.
    - c. Because we are in Christ, the Spirit of life, who is Christ Himself, dwells in our spirit and mingles Himself with our spirit as one spirit—1 Cor. 6:17.
    - d. In Christ these three—our spirit, the divine life, and the Spirit of life—are all mingled as one unit—Rom. 8:2, 10-11, 16.
  3. We do not need to struggle or strive; all we need to do is to cooperate with the Lord, allowing the law of the Spirit of life to have an opportunity to operate within us, freeing us from the law of sin and of death—vv. 5-6.
  4. In Christ, with this unit, there is the spontaneous power, which is the law of the Spirit of life, that continually sets us free from the law of sin and of death as we walk according to the mingled spirit—v. 4.
- F. Christ dealt with our sins through His crucifixion, and He dealt with our death—our utter spiritual weakness—through His resurrection, overcoming sin and death, and now the law of the Spirit of life has freed us in Christ from the law of sin and of death—1 Cor. 15:3-4:
1. We are freed in Christ, which means that we are delivered from the law of sin and of death—Rom. 8:2.
  2. The freeing is the work of the Spirit, and deliverance is the result we have received.
  3. Seeing and realizing that the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has freed us from the law of sin and of death is a great discovery, and for this we thank and praise the Lord.