

The Heart of Romans: “No Condemnation” Weekly Recap

Romans 8:1-4

So, therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in the Messiah, Jesus! **Why not?** **Because** the law of the spirit of life in the Messiah, Jesus, released you from the law of sin and death. **For** God has done what the law (being weak **because** of human flesh) was incapable of doing. God sent his own son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and as a sin-offering; **and, right there in** the flesh, he condemned sin. **This was in order that** the right and proper verdict of the law could be fulfilled in us, **as** we live not according to the flesh **but** according to the spirit.

The “End” of the Law is Life. (Throughout the Torah and Psalms)

Read Psalm 1. How does the word of God give life?

The End of the Law is Jesus. (Romans 10)

Read Romans 10:1-8. How is Jesus the “end” of the word of God?

The End of the Law is Love. (Romans 13)

Read Romans 13:8-10 How is Love the “end” of the word of God?

We are the End of the Law. (simple math)

How are we as the church the fulfillment of the scriptures?

Galatians 5:14:

For the entire law is **fulfilled** in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Read Romans 8:5-11: **How are we like Zombies who have been restored?**

Look at it like this. People whose lives are determined by human flesh focus their minds on matters to do with the flesh, **but** people whose lives are determined by the spirit focus their minds on matters to do with the spirit. Focus the mind on the flesh, **and** you’ll die; **but** focus it on the spirit, **and** you’ll have life, and peace. The mind focused on the flesh, **you see**, is hostile to God. It doesn’t submit to God’s law; **in fact**, it can’t. Those who are determined by the flesh can’t please God. **But** you’re not people of flesh; you’re people of the spirit (if indeed God’s spirit lives within you; note that anyone who doesn’t have the spirit of the Messiah doesn’t belong to him). **But if** the Messiah is in you, the body is indeed dead because of sin, but the spirit is life because of covenant justice. **So, then, if** the spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead lives within you, the one who raised the Messiah from the dead will **give life to your mortal bodies, too, through his spirit who lives within you.**

Many have tried to “explain” Paul’s words in Romans 8 to fit their agenda. By looking at Galatians 5, we can let Paul explain himself and avoid the trap of misusing his words:

Galatians 5:16-19

So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that **you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.**

Galatians 5:19-26:

The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this **will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. **Against such things there is no law**. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have **crucified the flesh** with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, **let us keep in step with the Spirit**. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.**

How are we to live “in step with the law”, but not “under it”?

Romans 8:12-17

So then, my dear family, we are in debt – **but not to human flesh, to live our life in that way. **If you live in accordance with the flesh, you will die; **but if**, by the spirit, you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live**. All who are led by the spirit of God, **you see**, are God’s children. You didn’t receive a spirit of slavery, **did you**, to go back again into a state of fear? **But** you received the spirit of sonship, in whom we call out ‘Abba, father!’ **When that happens**, it is the spirit itself giving supporting witness to what our own spirit is saying, that we are God’s children. **And if we’re children, we are also heirs: heirs of God, and fellow heirs with the Messiah, **as long as** we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him**.**

God led the Israelites in the wilderness with his Shekinah glory in the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night. That glory came to rest in the Holy of Holies in the Tabernacle and then the Temple. Now it is INSIDE of us.

This is a NEW EXODUS. **Led by** the Shekinah Glory of God.

Filled with the Shekinah Glory of God.

Manifesting the Shekinah Glory of God.