

A QUICK REVIEW OF ROMANS CHAPTER EIGHT

How To Live Victoriously



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The Romans Chapter Eight Life

The Purpose Of The Law

Rom 7:14 (NIV) We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. The law is pointing you to a spiritual, love relationship with God. Prior to salvation, you, as a spirit, and your body lived a sinful, unspiritual life. Then, at salvation, your spirit was made new. **2 Cor 5:17 (NIV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!** This happened to your spirit; but, it didn't do anything for your body. It still contained the **sinful nature** with evil in it.

The Problem And The Solution

Rom 8:3 (NIV) For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering.

THE PROBLEM: The Law Had Power To Make You Responsible

For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature:

1. The Old Testament Law said that you *were responsible* to treat yourself, other's, and God's plan with right, good, and righteousness.
2. The Old Testament Law laid out what that right, good, and righteous behavior is.
3. The Old Testament Law made *you* responsible for finding out what that law said.
4. The Old Testament Law made you responsible for *living* it.
5. The Old Testament Law doesn't have any *power* to help you or make you live it.
6. Since the Old Testament Law doesn't have any power to help you or make you live it, the **sinful nature** in your body *kept* you from treating yourself, other's, and God's plan with right, good, and righteous behavior, *making* you a sinner.

THE SOLUTION: The Power To Provide You With A Cure

God did by sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering: When *you* failed to do right, good, and righteous things, as laid out in the law, you contracted the spiritual disease of sin. Even if you only sinned once, you became infected with sin and also become a carrier. Sin is very contagious, and very deadly. From that point on, you could no longer enter into God's eternal Kingdom; He *will not* let one sin into His eternal Kingdom. So, Jesus took all your sins on Himself and died in your place. That provided you with a cure.

The Power To Save And Justify You

John 3:16 (NIV) For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that <u>whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life</u>. When you believed in Jesus, the *salvation* cure was applied to your past life and took care of all your past sins. But, that didn't keep you from going out and sinning again. Justification is a system where by you are given *immunity* from sin. Even when you do things that would have been sins, God considers your record with Him as being perfect. <u>In order to keep your current and future sins from contaminating you and your record, you must have the Romans 7:15 attitude</u>.

My Perfect Record With God

Rom 7:15 (NIV) I do not understand what I do. For what I *want* to do <u>I do not do</u>, but what I *hate* <u>I do</u>. Nos you have a perfect record with God because of your **"want"** and **"hate."** You aren't doing right, good, and righteous things to yourself, other people, and God's plan; but, you *want* to. You are doing wrong, bad, and evil things to yourself, other people, and God's plan; but, you *hate* it. This **"want"** and **"hate"** is what God is looking for. As long as you have them, He will keep your record *with Him* perfect.

The Cure For All Mankind

Rom 8:4 (NIV) And so He condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

The All-Inclusive Cure

And so He condemned sin in sinful man: Jesus didn't just die for Christians; He died for all mankind. The cure for every person is now in Jesus. Here is God's rule for making the cure available to everyone: **John 3:18 (NIV) *whoever* believes in Him is *not* condemned, but *whoever* does not believe stands condemned already <u>because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son</u>.**

The Changing Of The Laws

Rom 8:1-2 (NIV) Therefore, there is now no condemnation <u>for those who are in Christ Jesus</u>, *because* through Christ Jesus <u>the law of the Spirit of life</u> set me free from <u>the law of sin and death</u>. When you did what it took to believe in Jesus, Jesus removed your responsibility to the Old Testament law and made you responsible to the New Testament law. The new law is called: **The law of the Spirit of life.** The important thing about the Old and New Testament laws is, who is responsible for carrying them out?

1. **The Old Testament Law Of Sin And Death:** You are responsible for finding out what it says; and then you are responsible for living it.

2. **The New Testament Law Of The Spirit Of Life:** You are responsible for finding out what it says; and you are responsible for applying The Three Keys To All Of Christianity to them; then Jesus is responsible for living them through you.

Offering Your Body

Rom 12:1 (NIV) Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to <u>*offer* your bodies as living sacrifices</u>, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. This is a change of lifestyle; this is where you will need to get The Three Keys involved. You are being directed to change all of your exposures. You are being told to only expose your eyes, ears, and body to those things that help you live the Jesus-life. You are being told to *not* expose your body to anything that would hurt or keep you from living the Jesus-life. That is how you **offer your** body **as** a **living sacrifice.**

Getting My Mind Set On The Holy Spirit's Desires

Rom 7:16 (NIV) And *if* I do <u>what I do not *want* to do</u>, I agree that the law is good. How do you stop doing what you **do not want to do?** First, you have to **agree that the law is good.** That means you allow the Bible to tell you what you should watch, read, listen to, and expose yourself to. Then you start applying The Three Keys to each situation in your day. If you have a decision to make, *ask* Jesus to help you make one that is in keeping with the Bible. If you struggle with making a Biblical decision, apply The Seven Biblical Principles to the situation, so you can find out why you are struggling.

Rom 8:5 (NIV) Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit <u>have their minds set on what the Spirit desires</u>.

1. **Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires:** This means you are spending your time doing what your body wants you to do. You are *watching* worldly, sinful, and satanic things. You are *listening* to those things that lead you into doing worldly, sinful, and satanic things. And, you are *exposing your body* to worldly, sinful, satanic things.

2. **Those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires:** This means you are spending your time doing what the Holy Spirit wants you to do. You are *watching* Biblical, spiritual, and righteous things. You are *listening* to those things that lead you into doing Biblical, spiritual, and righteous things. You are *exposing your body* to Biblical, spiritual, and righteous things.

Controlling My Mind

Rom 7:17 (NIV) As it is, it is no longer *I myself* who do it, but it is sin living in me. This is still living the Romans chapter seven life. Because your body has the **sinful nature,** it is forcing you to do what it wants. And, because you don't know how to completely yield to the Holy Spirit, you can't keep it from forcing you to do what it wants. But, by doing what Jesus just taught you concerning exposing yourself to: reading your Bible, doing good devotions, praying, going to church and to small groups, listening to good Christian music, and reading good Christian books, you are feeding your spirit. That helps you yield to the Holy Spirit.

1. **Rom 8:6a (NIV) The mind of sinful man is death:** This is the condition of your mind after you have spent most of your life exposing yourself to wrong, bad, and evil input.

2. **Rom 8:6b (NIV) But the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace:** This is the condition you are bringing your mind into. Because you are **<u>offering your body as</u> <u>a living sacrifice</u>, holy and pleasing to God**, you are setting yourself up for Jesus transforming your mind.

My Renewed Mind Transforms My Life
Rom 12:2 (NIV) Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but <u>be transformed by the renewing of your mind</u>. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--His good, pleasing and perfect will.

1. **Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world:** What ever you feed your mind is what you are going to have flowing into your heart. And, what ever flows into your heart will come out of your mouth. And, what ever comes out of your mouth will show up in the behavior of your life.

2. **But be transformed *by* the renewing of your mind:** Use The Three Keys to get the power to only expose yourself to those things that will bring renewal to your mind. Once your mind is renewed, that will bring great transformation to your life.

Controlled By The Holy Spirit
Rom 7:18-20 (NIV) I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. <u>For I have the *desire* to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out</u>. For what I do is not <u>the good I *want* to do</u>; no, the evil I <u>do not *want* to do</u>--this I keep on doing. Now <u>if I do what I do not *want* to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it</u>. As you can see, **if** you **do what** you **do not *want* to do,** only then is it **no longer** you **who do it, but it is sin living in** you **that does it.** You cannot sin on purpose and keep your perfect record. You *must* repent and turn from the wickedness you are doing on purpose.

Rom 8:9 (NIV) You, however, <u>are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit</u>, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.

1. In the Romans chapter seven life, you weren't being controlled by the **sinful nature** in your spirit. Because God separated you from your body, none of its deeds were counted against you.

2. In this Romans chapter eight life, you won't be controlled by the **sinful nature** because you are going to be controlled by the Holy Spirit. In this situation, not only will your spirit be *credited* for the right thing, your body will *actually be doing* the right thing.

Getting My Body Changed
Rom 7:21-23 (NIV) So I find this law at work: When I *want* to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I *delight* in God's law; but I see another law at work <u>in the members of my body</u>, waging war against the law of my mind and *making* me a prisoner of the law of sin at work <u>within my members</u>.

Since your body's will is more powerful that your spirit's will, and since you have to do everything through your body, the next project is to change your body. You have been exposing yourself to those things that are right, good, and righteous. And, you have stopped exposing yourself to those things that are wrong, bad, and evil. That has changed your mind, heart, and their desires.

1. **Rom 8:10 (NIV) But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness.** This is still like it was in your Romans chapter seven life. Your body is still dominant; it still has the **sinful nature** in it; and evil is still in that **sinful nature.**

2. **Rom 8:11 (NIV) And if the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He Who raised Christ from the dead <u>will also give life to your mortal bodies</u> through His Spirit, Who lives in you.** This is going to take some spiritual work. You are going to have to use The Three Keys to get this accomplished.

Applying The Three Keys To My Body

And if the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you: This **"if"** cannot be ignored. It is true that **the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.** But, you must acknowledge that fact. *Ask* Jesus to empower you to admit that the Holy Spirit is **living in you.** Now for a quick reminder of your Romans 10:8-10 procedure:

Rom 10:8 (NIV) But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your *mouth* and in your *heart*," that is, <u>the word of faith</u> we are proclaiming. This is the procedure for taking faith-action. After you have *asked* for something that you know is God's will, it becomes your responsibility to use this Romans 10:8 procedure for speaking it into existence, or, as in this case, establishing what you believe.

How You Got Saved

Rom 10:9 (NIV) That if you <u>confess with your *mouth*</u>, "Jesus is Lord," and <u>believe in your *heart*</u> that God raised Him from the dead, <u>you *will* be saved</u>. You used the Romans 10:8 procedure and were *instantly* made into a child of God, made a member of His family, and made a citizen of His eternal Kingdom. **Rom 10:10 (NIV) For it is <u>with your *heart* that you believe and are justified</u>, and it is <u>with your *mouth* that you confess and are saved</u>.** That is how it worked then and that is how is works on *all* other spiritual things.

How You Get Your Body Changed

If the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you: Now, confess this sentence with your *mouth*: **"The Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead *is* living in** me." Now, believe it in your *heart*! After that, confess this with your *mouth*: **"He Who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to** my **mortal body."** Now, believe in your *heart* that He *did* **give life to** your **mortal body.** This gives you power to force your body to start doing those things the Bible tells *you* to do. Take action with faith.

Accepting Your Responsibility
Rom 8:12 (NIV) Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation--but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. Your body is changed; it can be forced to do those things you are reading about, studying, and praying over. You have moved into the spirit realm, the supernatural realm where you, as a spirit and as a child of God, can let Jesus teach you how to live the victorious Jesus-life. Use The Three Keys to make this happen!

Crying Out For Help And Getting It
Rom 7:24-25 (NIV) What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God--through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin. Remember this cry of desperation while you were only able to live the Romans chapter seven life? So much has change from then to now. Jesus has been working miracles in you through His Bible. Take out some time to thank Him for providing you with such miraculous blessings.

Living The Romans Eight Life Through The Holy Spirit

Rom 8:13-14 (NIV) For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if *by* the Spirit *you* put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, *because* those who are led *by* the Spirit of God <u>are sons of God</u>.

For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die: What Jesus is teaching you is vital information. He is helping you take advantage of your training and your perfect record with God. He is empowering you to move out of the life controlled by the **sinful nature.**

But if *by* the Spirit *you* put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live: This is one of the most important truths in the Bible. It helps you see how your relationship with the Holy Spirit is going to empower you to force your body to yield to your spirit. This sentence must be broken down into small parts, so you can start it working in your life over your body.

1. **IF:** Your God-given free will hasn't been taken away for you. If you choose to do this, you will win over your body. If you choose to practice it, you will get good at it. If you believe this verse is true, you will start living the Jesus-life in faith. There are a lot of "if's" that could be listed here that are all available to you.

2. **If *by* the Spirit:** This is similar to the way it was when *you* were *trying* to overpower your body using human effort. You will, for example, reach over and pick up your Bible. You will turn to the place where you are to start reading for the day. And, you will read those Scriptures that you were supposed to read. But, this time, you did it because you believed the Holy Spirit is empowering you to do it. **By the Spirit** means you don't give yourself the credit, when you do these things you couldn't do before.

3. **If *by* the Spirit *you*:** You will have to act just like you are doing it all by means of your own power. You will have to get up and go to church. It will all look the same. The devil will try to tell you that you are actually doing these things yourself. But, as you continue to believe the Holy Spirit is empowering you to do what you couldn't do before, ***by* the Spirit *you*** will start living the victorious Jesus-life.

4. **If *by* the Spirit *you* put to death the misdeeds of the body:** The same is true of you doing things you shouldn't be doing. It will feel like you just made up your mind to not do it. And, if you allow Satan to convince you that, that is the case, you will lose your battle. But, as long as you know it is being done ***by* the Spirit, *you*** will win!

Confirmation Of Relationship

Rom 8:15 (NIV) For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him we cry, "Abba, Father."

It's A Love Based Relationship

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear: You aren't being motivated by the fear that if you don't do this, God will bring curses on you or something bad will happen to you. You are doing it because you know God loves you and is directing you into the very best for you. You are doing this, because you *want* your life changed into the blessings of God. **Rom 5:5b (NIV) God *has* poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, Whom He *has* given us.**

It's A Family Relationship

You received the Spirit of sonship: You are God's child; you are a member of His family; and, You are a citizen of His eternal Kingdom. **Mat 7:11 (NIV) If you, then, though you are evil, know how to <u>give good gifts to your children</u>, *how much more* will your Father in heaven <u>give good gifts to those who ask Him</u>!** God's blessings can't be deserved, stolen, traded for, or demanded. They are **good *gifts* to those who *ask* Him.**

It's An Intimate Relationship

And by Him we cry, "Abba, Father": The Holy Spirit connects you to your heavenly Father and Jesus. He is how you have direct contact to them. When you feel God's presence, when ideas pop up in your mind, when you know what God wants you to do, and when you feel a special love for and from God, it is the Holy Spirit making all that possible.

It's A Spirit-To-Spirit Relationship

Rom 8:16 (NIV) The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. You will be able to *feel* God's love, *know* whole concepts instantly, *know* God's will, and *feel* His presence. With the Holy Spirit connected directly to your spirit and directly connected to Jesus and your heavenly Father, He makes you one with them.

It's A Generous Relationship
Rom 8:17-18 (NIV) Now if we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory. I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. The main part of the Jesus-life is sharing. Jesus has made you **co-heirs** with Him. Now He is asking you to make your breakthroughs available to your friends.

You are an **heir of God! Rev 21:3-4 (NIV) And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and He will live with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."**

Holy Spirit Submission

Yielding Control To The Holy Spirit
Rom 8:9 (NIV) <u>You, however, are controlled</u> not by the sinful nature but <u>by the Spirit</u>, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.

The Three Keys
<u>You, however, are controlled</u> not by the sinful nature but <u>by the Spirit</u>: Once you have *asked* Jesus to help you yield your God-given free will to the Holy Spirit, you are ready to *ask* Jesus to help you apply the *seek* key to this request. It has to do with passion, diligence, determination, commitment, and intensity. The *seek* key comes from your heart. It is applied by you yielding the emotions of your heart. You are allowing the Holy Spirit to apply His **fruit of the Spirit** to the situation.

1. **Love:** You allow your heart to feel love toward the Bible and its commands.
2. **Joy:** As you get involved in living each Bible verse, you allow the Holy Spirit to give you joy. You allow yourself to enjoy obeying each verse in the Bible.
3. **Peace:** Rather than you feeling pressure, force, human responsibility, drudgery, or guilt, you feel relaxation, trust, empowered, spirit controlled, and a flow in the Spirit.
4. **Patience:** Rather than feeling frustrated, stressed, impatience, demands on you, or deadlines, you feel freedom, success, fulfillment, and satisfaction.
5. **Kindness:** Rather than feeling like God is putting legal requirements on you, you know He loves you, respects you, is supporting you, and is flowing in and through you.
6. **Goodness:** Rather than you feeling like God is wanting you to be a good person, you are using The Three Keys to help you allow Jesus to live His goodness through you.
7. **Faith and Faithfulness:** Rather than you having to produce faith and be faithful through your own strength, you look to Jesus for your faith and faithfulness. You let Him empower you to believe and be faithful to Him.

8. **Gentleness:** Rather than feeling like God is wanting you to push things through, get the job done, do better, or make things happen, you feel Him leading you along while showing you what *He* is capable of doing through you.
9. **Self-control:** Rather than you trying to control yourself, you are looking to the power of the Holy Spirit to give you His control over yourself.

These aren't just mental decisions; believe you are deciding to yield to them through the power of the Holy Spirit. But, it is a relaxing and allowing them to flow into your heart. Pray and *ask* Jesus to empower you to yield to the Holy Spirit's power-emotions. *Seek* to have passion, intensity, and a great flow of His power-emotions. Then as you start experiencing them regularly, *knock* on the doors of opportunity to share them with others.

Ask is the dominate key; you *ask* Jesus to empower you to use the *seek* key to not just *ask* casually. You *ask* to yield to the *seek* key with passion, intensity, and deep desire for those things you are *asking* for. And, you use the *seek* key to search the Bible for Scriptures that will help you *ask* with a heart that is filled with the Holy Spirit's power-emotions.

Ask is also the key that activates the *knock* key. You *knock* on the doors of opportunity to share your miracles, blessings, and breakthroughs with others by *asking* for it. When you *knock* on the doors of opportunity to share with others. Jesus prepares the hearts of those He will be sending you to. Rather than you picking who to talk to, Jesus will take you to those who are receptive to what He wants you to tell them.

Conclusion

There are books that cover Romans chapter eight in much greater detail. Just go to wctlc.com and select: "I would like good BOOKS to read. Then once there, select: "I'm A Regular Participant." That will take you to the "Starting Your Day With Jesus" series. Scroll down to book number five: "Committing To The Christian Life" book. Select the title in the gray bar and it will take you to it.