

Romans 8

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 8.

B. Adam was created in the image and likeness of God—for a time man and God were in perfect fellowship with each other.

1. Love must be voluntary to be true love, so God gave man free will.
2. God's life was withdrawn from Adam when he fell.
3. When Christ enters into a human, he becomes a light again.
4. Activity that does not arise from dependence upon Christ is accomplishing nothing.
5. We are to yield our members to Christ and ask that God would make us effective.
6. We must simply be honest to what God reveals to us.
7. Only as the Spirit shows us what we are in Adam will we begin to be free.

C. If some sin still bothers us we need to be honest with God about what it is and ask the Spirit for help. (Romans 6-7)

D. The work of the Spirit is the life of Jesus in our mortal bodies. (II Corinthians 4:7)

1. We can do nothing in ourselves.
2. There are tendencies continually that lead us to self-life.
3. The cross of Jesus destroys the self-life.
4. The filling of the Spirit is quietly walking by the power of God.

E. The carnal mind ends up in death, which is uselessness.

II. The Christian life is the life of Christ lived through a believer.

A. Ways that can be walked.

1. After the Spirit, this is after the things of the Spirit. This involves the whole range of life.

2. After the flesh, this is after the things of the flesh. These also involve the whole range of life.

3. The difference is one of attitude and value. To be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

4. If we try to live life out of our own effort, we will ultimately be exposed.

B. When one received Jesus Christ, his spirit became alive.

C. The life in Christ is one of restful activity that quietly rests upon the prompting of the indwelling Spirit.

1. Everything is right until it is clear that it is wrong—it is the life of captive living.

2. It is the life of power-filled weakness.

3. It is the life of joyful suffering.

Application questions:

1. How can we encourage someone who is struggling with sin in light of the message?

2. What is the difference between walking after the Spirit and walking after the flesh? Explain.

3. How can walking after the Spirit be considered “rest?” Explain.
