
No Condemnation for Those Who Are in Christ Jesus

Romans 8:1-4

From: Don White

December 25, 2022

Introduction:

Reading, singing and knowing about the Christmas Story without the “Christmas theology” of the story is most likely to produce only mere sentimentalism. But, when by grace we know and trust in not only the story but the theology of the story we experience the joy of salvation and are encouraged to persevere in the faith as we eagerly await “the blessed hope and the appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.” (Titus 2:13)

In today’s message I want to look at the “Christmas Theology” that is set forth in Romans 8:1-4.

The Context:

The Righteousness of God

Romans 1:16-17

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *man* SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.”

The Purpose of the Law

Romans 3:19-20, 28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, so that every mouth may be closed and all the world may become accountable to God; ²⁰because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin.

²⁸For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

Romans 5:20-21

²⁰The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, ²¹so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(See also Galatians 2:16, 19-21; 3:10-14, 19-22; 4:4-5)

Sin

Romans 3:23; 6:23

^{3:23}for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

^{6:23}For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Justification

Justification not only means to be declared “not guilty,” it also means to be declared righteous before God.

Romans 3:21-28; 5:12-15-18

The banner over our passage is found in verse 1,
“No Condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

Romans 8 starts out with “no condemnation (8:1) but it ends with “no separation” (8:35-39)

Romans 8 refers to the Spirit/spirit (17/4 respectively) 21 times more times than any chapter in the Bible.

There are no commands in Romans 8.

¹Therefore there is now

no condemnation

Condemnation is the opposite of justification. Condemnation is a judicial sentence which results in punishment, i.e., God’s wrath.

Romans 5:12-21 (5:16, 18)

Ephesians 2:1-9

for those who are in Christ Jesus.

“in Christ Jesus” (Romans 6:3-4)

How can sinners be escape the verdict of condemnation?**²For****the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free****from the law of sin and of death. (See Romans 6:23a)**

The word "law" here means "principle", "rule", "control" over someone or "of a force or influence impelling to action." The word has already been used this way in Romans 3:27 & 7:21-25.

"has set you free" – (Aorist/past tense)

Romans 8:28-30

How can we know this freedom from the law of sin and of death?**³For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh,****Romans 7:7-25****God *did*: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh****Romans 2:7; Hebrews 2:14-15; Galatians 4:4-5****and as an *offering* for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,****Philippians 2:7-8; Colossians 1:19-20; 2:13-15**

Why Did God Send His Own Son?

⁴so that

the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us,

All that the Law demands (perfection) has been fulfilled and satisfied in Jesus Christ and in Him we are counted as righteous.

2 Corinthians 5:21

He made Him who knew no sin [to be] sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Paul develops this theme in the following verses (5-13)

Read the rest on Romans 8 and be encouraged with all that God has done for believers in Christ Jesus and the confidence we have in Him.

If you have not yet believed in Christ as your Savior you are under the sentence of God's condemnation. Only Jesus Christ can save you from God's wrath. Trust in Jesus Christ and be reconciled to God and know the joy of God's forgiveness.