

## **Romans 8:1-5 – The Death of Your Condemnation**

TSK, HebrewLexicon, Steele, Rienecker, Handfuls, Gaebelein, Vincent, Trapp, Robertson, Poole, PNT, Newell, Henry, Geneva, Family, Expositor, Calvin, Brothers and Sisters in the Lord: People panic when they see spiders. I don't know what it is about them that cause even grown men to panic! But most spiders are harmless. People's fears are unfounded.

You just need to call your brave wife to come and kill the spider. Then you will feel better. She destroys your fear – your enemy! The spider is dead!

Black widow spiders are more harmful, but even those are not your worst enemy.

That spider might be your enemy in this life, but it is not your greatest enemy. Your greatest enemy was your condemnation! And this is what you will see in this chapter!

Our headings are:

**The Declaration of your liberation**

**The Details of your liberation**

**The Decision after your liberation**

Our goals are: **That you will rejoice that your deadly condemnation has been killed for you, and you will determine to live according to the dictates of the Lord who destroyed your condemnation.**

### **The Declaration of your liberation**

1 There is therefore **now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus**, who **do not walk according to the flesh**, but **according to the Spirit.**

**1. Apostle Paul declared that those who are in Christ are assured at the present they are no longer under God's condemnation!**

**This condemnation is not just the declaration of guilt**, but it is also the **carrying out of the sentence.** But you are freed from it.

#### **Notice 4 things:**

**“Therefore!”** This shows **the link with that which was before.** Jesus delivered Apostle Paul from death! Remember what he said: O wretched man that I am...

**“In Christ!”** This shows **only those who are in Christ** can **experience the removal of their condemnation.**

**The removal of that condemnation is “now,” not at some future time.** The imperial domination of sin that brought eternal death has been stopped!

**The full assurance of the removal of their condemnation comes from the Holy Spirit.**

**2. Christians then show evidence of their confidence of freedom from condemnation by living according the dictates of God’s Holy Spirit who works through God’s Holy Word.**

**3. Lessons:**

**a. Know you have the present comfort of your liberation because your sins are forgiven.** You were delivered by Jesus.

**What a privilege it is to yours sins are forgiven and you can live in comfort!**

Remember when Dr Fauci said the masks were useless...then masks were good...and how science evolved? He said: I AM SCIENCE. Before congress he recently said 100+ times, I can’t recall!

**But God never changes.** His word always remains the same! Bank on it.

He said **all accusations are gone!** The avenger of blood cannot come near.

**(If Romans were a necklace, Romans 8 would be the center stone!)**

**b. Let the knowledge that your condemnation is gone cause you to rejoice – rejoice with hope!**

God’s demand on man required God’s help for man and he helped!

**This is the promise of Isaiah 40 – Comfort, comfort, you my people!**

**c. Let that knowledge that your condemnation is gone cause you to throw off the weight of guilt of all your past sins!**

That black mark against you has been removed! Carrying guilt causes anger...depression ... doubts...about your salvation.

Don’t carry a burden that was already borne by Christ.

**d. If you don’t have the desire and if you don’t walk according the dictates of the**

*Spirit of God, you are still under condemnation. Make your life right with God.*

### **The Details of your liberation**

2 For the **law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus** has made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 **that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled** in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

**1. The reason the sinner is no longer condemned is because he is in Christ, and he was declared righteous, justified from all his sins.**

**All man's sins were placed on Christ. Christ's righteousness was placed on man.**

**2. To get the details of your liberation clearer, let me define some terms in English:**

**a. "The law of the Spirit of Life" is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.** Man learns of God's holiness, man's sins, and Christ's work, and he is told if he receives those things by faith, all his sins would be put to Christ's account and Christ's righteousness would be put to man's account. (This is worth memorizing.)

**John 3: 34 "For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God,** for God does not give the Spirit by measure.

And **notice the work of the Holy Spirit whom Jesus sent.**

The **Gospel by itself is just good news,** but the Spirit is the one who applies God's words to the individual life. He gives freedom!

**1Corinthians 15: 45** And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." **The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.**

**b. "The law of sin and death" is the law of Moses.** The law, in and of itself is perfect, but man was unable to keep it and so he brought condemnation to sin, death, and hell on himself. **Prove it you say?**

**Apostle Paul told the Galatians that through the law he was dead!** (Galatians 2:19)

**The law was weak and unprofitable – with regards to saving man.** (Hebrews 7:18)

**The law wasn't strong enough to make man overcome his lusts** of his flesh, the lust of his eyes, and the pride of his life.

Symbolically, Moses could only lead men to the outside of Canaan! He needed Joshua to do the rest. (Joshua is Hebrew form of Jesus.)

So the “law of sin and death,” representing Moses, could not lead men to heaven, but Jesus could!

3. To free sinners from condemnation God sent his Son in human nature to give his life as a sacrifice for sins, so he legally killed (your) death.

Hebrews 2:14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and **release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.**

But Jesus did not just come simply in human flesh. He specifically came in the “likeness of sinful flesh.” He experience tiredness, sorrow, pain...

This showed, not that Jesus was sinful, but all men in the flesh were sinful. He had to take on weak flesh.

4. This work of killing condemnation was fully completed and man did not need anything or anyone else!

The poisonous spiritual spider of death died!

Hebrews 10:10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all.**

Jesus could not do anything more to save anyone! This is why the Roman Catholic mass is abominable.

## 5. Lessons:

a. Killing your condemnation is a really beautiful picture of love.

You have a Big Brother who protects you.

No deadly spider of death can get you. The sting of sin is gone forever!

**The Spirit is at work, and wherever he works, there is liberty!**

1John 4:9 “*In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.*”

Jesus made himself of low reputation to show that love. (Philippians 2:6-8)

He fulfilled the law. Love is fulfilling of the law!

**b. Face death without fear.** Death has been destroyed. You might fear the unknown, but you are never alone at death, as Pastor Bezuyen said recently.

**c. Those who say Reformed people don't believe in the Holy Spirit are, sadly, ignorant.**

We understand the Holy Spirit is the one who works regeneration, who graciously sanctifies us, and who will gloriously give us new life after we die and take us to heaven.

**d. Don't keep others – including your children – bound with the law, as if the law would save them. “Morality” and manners will keep them condemned.**

Lead them to Christ. He will help them to walk in the law, but that is the result of their having been saved; **it is not the cause of their salvation.**

### **The Decision after your liberation**

5 For those who **live according to the flesh** set their minds on the **things of the flesh**, but those who **live according to the Spirit**, the **things of the Spirit**.

**1. Knowing the declaration that man is declared righteous and that man is declared righteous because Jesus killed man's condemnation, man then has a decision to make, a path to follow!** Two choices!

**2. Man can set his minds on the things of the flesh and be destroyed by God.**

The man who does this will be hostile to God's plans.

(“Flesh” refers to man's fallen nature.) **But the Christian doesn't do that.**

Philippians 3:3 For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, **and have no confidence in the flesh,**

**3. Man can set his mind on following the Spirit of God and live according to his leading.**

This means the regenerated man does not allow his flesh – his fallen nature - his worldly cravings – to dominate his life. He lives according to the Spirit of God,

bearing the fruits of the Spirit. You see, when a man is in Christ, he is in the True Vine and he will bear fruit according to his renewed, living nature!

#### **4. Lessons:**

**a. You can have hope of heaven because you have assurance of salvation now.**

You don't die with the uncertainty of Muslims, or Buddhists, or Hindus when they die. They don't even have assurance now!

**b. It doesn't matter if you are baptized, or if you are a member of the church of God, if you are hostile to God's laws, you are still in your sins.**

Church membership saves no one.

**c. Examine yourself and see if you are living according to the flesh.** As you think in your heart, so are you! Proverbs 23:7.

#### **Conclusion:**

There is no clearer passage to **show your condemnation to death is removed – is dead** than 1Corinthians 15:56, *“The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 57 **But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**”*

Brothers and sisters in the Lord:

**1. Rejoice.** There was an existential war. You were kept captive by sin. You couldn't get free by your efforts. Jesus came and tore down the walls, destroyed your chains, and brought you out to freedom.

**2. Now live according to the dictates of the one who set you free.**

This new life not only brings glory to your Redeemer, it is the best life for you and brings the greatest rewards.

**3. Are you tired of seeing a brother, sister, or friend trapped in sin? Throw them the rope of life.**

If they will listen, tell them of God's holiness, man's sin, and Christ's redemption of sinners.

Finally: Some people will have to die for themselves. **Will you?** You have that choice! **Accept Christ's death** for you and get God as your Father, **or reject Christ's death** and take your condemnation. **If you were wise, you'd choose to accept Christ's condemnation** as yours. **Then you'll be adopted as Christ's child and live for him.**