

If God Is For Us...We Are Free!

If God Is For Us, Pt.1

Romans 8:1- 4

August 6, 2017

Romans 8:31, *What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?*

1. We Are Free From CONDEMNATION

Romans 8:1, *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ²because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.*

Romans 7:15, *I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. ¹⁶And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me.*

Romans 7:18, *For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.*

Romans 7:20, *Now 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. ²¹So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me.*

Romans 7:22, *For in my inner being I delight in God's law; ²³but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me.*

Romans 7:24, *What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?*

2. We Are Free To Fully LIVE

Romans 8:3, *For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*

1 John 2:1, *My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ²He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.*

Hebrews 4:15, *For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

Cottonwood Creek Challenge:

Day 1 - Read Romans 8:1. List things that weigh you down, the persistent sins and patterns of disobedience. Confess those sins and thank God for the forgiveness He gives. Remember, "There Is No Condemnation!"

Day 2 - Read Romans 8:2. List things that give you life and joy. List things you do solely for the purpose of serving and honoring God. Remember: "I have been set free by the Holy Spirit."

Day 3 - Read Romans 8:3. List good things you have tried to do for the wrong reasons (i.e. things you have done to try and gain God's favor). Release those wrong motives and activities and thank God for His saving grace in your life. Remember, "God has set me free. I have not set myself free."

Day 4 - Read Romans 8:4. What expectations and standards have governed your life? Say a prayer of thanks because God has set you free from all human standards and expectations. Remember, "I am free to live in Christ!"