

Romans 6 – 8

STUDY AHEAD

Paul now transitions from the doctrine of SALVATION to SANCTIFICATION (how God grows us and changes us). There are 3 major movements in this section. See if you can follow them. POSITION > PROBLEM > PRACTICE.

POSITION: Read Romans 6:1-7:6. This is “positional truth” as it describes our new position in Christ.

6:2 Dead to sin.

6:3 Baptized into the death of Christ.

6:4 Buried with him and now raised from the dead to walk new.

6:6 Old self was crucified with Christ; no longer slaves to sin.

6:7 Freed from sin.

6:11 Consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God.

6:14 No longer under law, but under grace.

6:18 Now slaves of righteousness.

6:22 Now slaves of God (to live for His purposes).

7:4 We have died to the Law; we are joined to Christ.

7:6 We serve in newness of the Spirit, not oldness of the letter.

So . . . what is Paul telling us to do? See 6:12,13.

PROBLEM: Read Romans 7:7-25. Paul describes his ongoing struggle to live in the power of the Spirit and to overcome the sinful tendencies that still reside in his heart.

7:14 I am fleshly, sold into bondage to sin.

7:15 I do the very things I hate.

7:17 Sin which indwells me makes me disobey God.

7:18 Nothing good dwells in my flesh (sin nature).

7:19 I practice the very evil that I don't want to do.

7:21 Evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good.

7:23 There is a war between good and evil going on inside of me.

7:24 Wretched man that I am!

PRACTICE: Read 8:1-17. How many times is the Spirit mentioned in these verses? What is Paul telling us about overcoming the sin problem inside of us? The second half of 8:13 holds the key! And also 8:14. This is what Paul talked about in Galatians 5:16-26 – Keeping in step with the Spirit as we battle against the flesh.

And no matter how the battle is going, we can rest assured of some things that are true no matter what. Read 8:31-39.