

- “There is therefore / now / no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus”
 - ◇ What an opening line. It’s unforgettable, historical, like ...
 - “Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth, upon this continent, a new nation...”
 - “Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.”
 - “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus”
- No condemnation
 - ◇ There is no judgment cast on us, there is no sentence given, no punishment to bear.
 - ◇ That’s what it means to have no condemnation
 - Sorry my several very intelligent and devout friends, but this flies in the face of Penance
 - ◇ <Pause>There are so many of illustrations used, none of which, do to it justice of course.
 - We were two life times of income in debt because of our selfish and frivolous spending and have been forgiven of the debt, ransomed.
 - We were on death row and guilty mind you and have been pardoned
 - NO, it is as if we have done no crime at all.
 1. It isn’t as if I have sinned and need to fulfill some act of retribution to God.
 2. I am in constant sin and God does not see me as guilty
How can this be?
 - ◇ “There is therefore **now** no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus”
- Now
 - ◇ I am NOW (Now that I admit failures, Now that Jesus paid my ransom)
I am... we are now no longer condemned to death, spiritual death, eternal.
 - As Paul wrote earlier in the book

Rom 4:7-8 "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the one against whom the Lord will never count sin."
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 - Here Paul is quoting psalms 32
 - There are remnants of the Psalms spread all through the book of Romans.
 - In chapter 3 He puts together 4 or 5 different Psalms together to make this remarkable statement of how depraved we, all of us, are.
 - But Psalms 32 seems to be right at the heart of this chapter.
 - And this particular Psalm seems to have *nearly* prophetic elements of Paul’s life
But I am going to hold off possibly read it next week.
- Just as the Psalms seems to be at the heart of Chapter 8
- Chapter 8 seems be the heart of Romans, and it is intimately linked to Chapter 3.
 - ◇ Where we learn that – No one is right with the Lord – As it reads...
 - ◇ [Rom 3:10-12]

"None is righteous, **no**, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." [Rom 3:10-12]

- ◇ Paul continues on ...(I have to read this whole section...it is just too important)

Rom 3:20-25 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But **NOW** the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law -- although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it -- the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

and are **justified** by his grace as a gift, through the **redemption** that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a **propitiation** by his blood, to be received by faith.

This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

- There is a hand full of word studies for ya there.

- ◇ Propitiation, Redemption, Justification....

- ◇ We began with Condemnation, I think we have a handle on that....

- Having a judgment and /or sentence pronounced on you.

- ◇ Let me begin with Propitiation (review from the first session)

- The word comes from the Latin Vulgate (405 BC):

Propitiatorium; to make peace, atone for, or give a ransom.

The same word is used Ex 25:17

Describing the "Mercy Seat" the lid "cover" on the Ark of the Covenant.

- God told Moses

Exo 25:21-22 And you shall put the mercy seat on the top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the testimony that I shall give you. There I will meet with you, and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim that are on the ark of the testimony; I will speak with you about all that I will give you in commandment for the people of Israel.

- Paul used the word Propitiation there in Rom 3. Why use this language? (a particular word)

- Jesus is put forward as the "Mercy Seat"
- The place that God will meet His people.
- Above the Law, literally a cover over the written law.
- Between the Angels of the throne room, same angels that were sent to guard Eden

- ◇ "Through the Redemption in Jesus Christ...God put Him forth as a propitiation"

- Redemption; (Aplutrosis) means: Deliverance through a ransom.
 - Often used to describe when one is freed from slavery or prison
 - Jesus didn't become the Mercy seat without effort, propitiation isn't free, He paid for it.
 - He paid your ransom. You are a slave.
 - And Jesus paid for you, he paid what was due.
 - ◇ Because of this we are all justified in Gods eyes.
 - ◇ Justification (dik-ah-yo'-o); happens to be the antonym of (Kat-ak-ree-mah) Condemnation
 - Not only freed from slavery of sin, met by God at the Mercy seat – Jesus –
 - But, does not hold judgment of my wrong doings.
- Psa 103:12 as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
- The Hebrew reads as far as the sun-set is from the sun-rise.
 - They can never meet – it is flat our impossible.
 - God removes our sins, and puts them so far out of reach, they cannot be held over our heads...NO Condemnation...That is justification.
 - That is what I mean by -- it is as if we have done no crime at all.

⊕ Ok, I think we have the foundation set. Let's build from there...

- “There is **therefore** / now / no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- I might add that the KJV places an extra sentence, which puts a condition to “those who are in Christ Jesus.”
 - ◇ It reads, “...for those who are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit”.
 - Putting the condition of one's walk into being freed from condemnation.
 - ◇ But as the earliest manuscripts show us this was added by scribes in the Byzantine text and made its way into the Texus Receptus.
 - ◇ The best evidence shows us that the original signatures put no conditions on this freedom from the punishment that we are due; merely be in Jesus Christ
- But, what does that mean, to be in Jesus?
 - ◇ This is the motive behind the scribes actions in altering the manuscript, to better define what it meant to be in Christ Jesus.
 - ◇ After all he was just borrowing text from verse 4 –
 - which **seems** to be defining those in the Spirit

Rom 8:4 [God did this and that so...] That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in **us**, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

⊗ I have wasted enough time here, lets hold off on that for discussion time later. Back to...

- “There is **therefore** / now / no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
 - ◇ Therefore (*ara*): a concluding particle
 - ◇ What is it concluding?

- Remember what we were struggling with last chapter

Rom 7:14-25 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin.

Hu...sold...kinda like into slavery

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.
 ...I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.
 ...I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

This is the struggle to be right in the Lords eyes.

Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

<Pause>

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

- Why is there no condemnation?
 - ◇ If I am still wrapped up in sin, throughout the fiber of my flesh, why is there no punishment for me?

Rom 8:2 For (BECAUSE) the law of the Spirit of life has set you free / in Christ Jesus / from the law of sin and death.

- The law of the spirit of life? I thought we were released from the law? What is this - law -Spirit

Rom 7:6 But now we have been released from the law, because we have died to what controlled us,
 so that we may **serve** in the new life of the Spirit and not under the old written code.

- So we have been released from the law...to serve in the new life of the Spirit.
 - ◇ As chapter 7 taught us the law is temporary, only valid to those who are in the flesh.
- Ok, well, how can this law of the Spirit do that? How can it set us free?

Rom 8:3 For (BECAUSE) God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do.

By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin,

Jesus was in the likeness of sinful flesh – that is the proper use of the word “like” ...a simile. That is; not sinful flesh but similar to it...looked it, but was just the flesh part...hold the sin.

| By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, |
 ...”for sin” the expression evidently means....for the purpose of...as a Sacrifice for Sin

| By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, |
 | he condemned sin in the flesh, |

For the purpose of condemning sin...Sin accused...Sin sentenced to punishment, sentenced to destruction.

No condemnation for those in Christ, The condemnation is for sin...

| Rom 8:4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, |
 | who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. |

- What is the requirement of the Law?
 - ◇ Perfection – to make us righteous (or sinless) in front of the Lord
 - ◇ But, the law can’t make us righteous we have to be obedient to the law to be righteous.
 - ◇ And we all fall short in that – because we are burdened with curse from Adam.
 - The knowledge of evil...loss of innocence and life by Gods wisdom only.
 - We now are subject to things of evil by knowledge of them.
 - ◇ So God, in His perfect plan, gave us an out - by coming to earth and fulfilling the perfect requirement of the law and, as Paul writes, condemned sin...not us.
 - ◇ And then we, with Jesus spirit in us, also fulfill the law through Jesus perfection.
- Notice the condition mentioned here that was brought up in 8:1.
 - ◇ In us dying to ourselves and accepting Jesus death as our ransom, we are owned by Him And, like Him, we are resurrected (reborn) with a new life [we’ll develop this further in a bit] but this new life is no longer held to the standard of the law.
 - ◇ This new life is a spiritual life, no longer driven by the flesh and the worldly.
 - ◇ Does it have a different meaning placed here, as it would if placed in 8:1?

◊ By the way, we are starting to see this progression of “fors”

- In this chapter, the word “for” is used a lot.
 In the ESV it is only preceded in use by the word “the”
- “For” is a curious word. It can have a few connotations to its meaning.
 - ◇ The word is “gar” in Greek.
 - ◇ A logical precession: “Because”. Not as much **THE** cause as a logical progression of thought, and often in this book, a series of points building the prove.
 I have a blue shirt **for** there was no other color of shirt in my closet **for** it has been some

time since I put my laundry away **for** I have been quite busy...and lazy...

- ◇ Also, “for” can be a demonstration or a progression in thought: “Indeed” has been used to describe the Greek work *gar*. Or more commonly “You see”
- ◇ Piper comment: I don’t know exactly what for means there; that is part of the mystery.
 - So if you noticed I will take some liberty and attempt to re translate “for” as either Because or You see, just for clarity.

⊗ Example, Paul continues to define who those are walking according to His Spirit.

[Jesus] condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Rom 8:5 For (YOU SEE) those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

- If the law has been fulfilled in you then, What is your mind set on?
- What we feed ourselves boils over into everything in our lives - right out our mouths first.
- As Jesus taught...

Mat 12:34 You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

Mat 15:18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart...

- So...

Rom 8:6 To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

Rom 8:7 For (BECAUSE) the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

Rom 8:8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

- You got two laws of God now.
 - ◇ Written law of perfection
 - ◇ The Spirit of Jesus.
 - ◇ Both of which are contrary to the desires of the world.

Jas 4:4 ... Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

- The same Greek word is used there
 - ◇ “The flesh is hostile to God”
 - ◇ “Friendship with the world is enmity with God”
 - ◇ *Ekh thrah*: A deep seated hatred.

Jas 4:5-7 Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"?

But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud,

but gives grace to the humble."
Submit yourselves therefore to God

- He yearns over the spirit that He has made to dwell in us.

Rom 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

Rom 8:10 But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

- That is Christ's Spirit is alive in us because of His righteousness in us.

Rom 8:11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Rom 8:12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.

- An "If – Then" statement: actually a double If – Then statement.

- ◇ If Christ is in you.

- ◇ If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you.

- ◇ Then we are debtors.

- When one has become overwhelmed with debt, they (and even their immediate family) may be cast (condemned if you will) to being a slave to the creditor

- ◇ Remember the series of word studies we talked about earlier?

- Redemption; (Aplutrosis) Deliverance through a ransom.

Mat 20:28 even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

- But now if we have Christ in us we are debtors?

- I thought we were no longer a slave to sin?

- Why are we debtors?

- ◇ I have seen this translated as "we are under obligation"

- We are indebted to Him because

1. Jesus paid our due and He owns us

2. But also because of My love for Him.

- If you love me obey my commandments. [Joh 14:15]

- We are debtors to Christ not to sin, not to the flesh

Rom 8:13 For (YOU SEE) if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

Rom 8:14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Rom 8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

- The Spirit of life is not one of slavery and fear, but is a spirit of a fathers love for his children.
 - ◊ This is just a small example of the graciousness of our God.
 - ◊ He purchases us from slavery, has all the right in the universe to call us into slavery to him, but instead adopts us, brings us into his family.
- Abba...a word that could not be used by slaves. Reserved for children birth.
- Not just a stoic, “Yes sir, yes father” and intimate, abba, father..
- And it even gets better

Rom 8:16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
 Rom 8:17 and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

- What? What did I read there?
 “...and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ”
- Fellow heirs with Christ: wow.
 - ◊ Imagine being the heir to Rockefeller, Bill Gates, or one of the Kennedy’s.
 - ◊ But we are heirs to the creator of the Universe.
- The letter to the Ephesians expresses this in an interesting way.
 - ◊ As an inheritance
- And the second letter to Timothy expresses it as reigning in the Lords leadership

2Ti 2:11 The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
 2Ti 2:12 if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us;
 2Ti 2:13 if we are faithless, he remains faithful-

- That is honestly overwhelming.
 - ◊ Not His slaves, his sons with inheritance and reigning with the creator of the universe, honestly unimaginable.
- Verse 17 ended with something interesting though.

Rom 8:17 and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, **provided** we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

- “Provided” seems conditional.
 - ◇ *i per* meaning: if indeed, if so be that, if perhaps.
 - ◇ You see our inheritance is not dependant on us suffering, But...
- If perhaps we suffer ... we may also be gloried with Him.

- ◇ After all Hebrews 12 tells us...

Heb 12:6 For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every **son** whom he receives."

And

[Jesus said] I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." [Joh 16:33]

- ◇ So then our suffering may turn to glory.
 - But suffering that we can overcome.
 - And that glory is His glory first as a good father and our glory through Him.

What kind of glory?

1Co 2:9 But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"--

- There is this remarkable description in the second letter to the Corinthians
 - ◇ 2 Cor 4:7-16

2Co 4:7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.
 2Co 4:8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair;
 2Co 4:9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;
 2Co 4:10 always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

...

2Co 4:17 For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,
 2Co 4:18 as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

- Exactly what Paul reiterates to the Romans
 - ◇ Rom 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.
- It is mysterious, it points to some amazing ideas in Gods plan.
- But...Next week.