

“No Condemnation!”
Romans 8:1-4

Introduction:

1. This Morning - We Will Begin Looking At:
 - One Of The Most Remarkable Chapters:
 - In All Of The Bible:
 - Romans Chapter 8:
 - So - Please Turn There With Me:
 - In Your Bibles This Morning!
 - Romans 8!
2. It Is Remarkable:
 - Because It Brings Paul’s Teaching:
 - About The Gospel:
 - To A Glorious Climax!
 - The Gospel - Which Is - The Good News:
 - That Sinners **Against** God:
 - Can Be Justified **By** God:
 - By His Grace – Through Faith Alone:
 - In The Lord Jesus Christ!
 - In Both **Who** He Is & **What** He Did!
3. It Is This Truth:
 - That The Apostle Paul Stated:
 - All The Way Back In:
 - 5:1-2 - When He Wrote:
 - “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: / By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God!”
4. This Means That:
 - Even Though **You Were**:
 - And - In Many Respects - **You Still Are**:
 - An Ungodly Sinner And A Wretch:
 - Who Deserves God’s Judgment:
 - Yet - When You Turn To And Trust In Jesus Christ:
 - Your “Faith Is Counted For Righteousness!”
 - Even As Paul Wrote:
 - Back In 4:5:
 - “But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness!”
5. So That Now:
 - As We Come To The First 4 Verses:
 - Of Romans 8 - We Hear These Words Of Assurance:
 - 8:1-4 - “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. / For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. / For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: / That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit!”
 - When You Come:
 - By Faith - And By Faith Alone:
 - To The Lord Jesus Christ:
 - You Are Given:
 - Real Freedom:
 - From The Very Moment You Are Saved!
6. And This Morning:
 - From These Verses:
 - We Will See Three Ways:
 - In Which You:
 - If You Are A Born-Again Christian:
 - Are Truly Free!

* First - You Are Truly:

1. Free From The Condemnation Of Sin!

- Which Is Clearly Stated For Us:
 - In 8:1 - "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit!"
 - This Is One Of The Greatest Truths:
 - Of The Christian Faith!
 - You Are Free From The Condemnation:
 - Of Your Own Sin Against God!
 - And That Is:
- A Great Promise!
 - "No Condemnation!"
 - Condemnation Here:
 - Is The Polar Opposite Condition:
 - Of Justification - And Refers To:
 - What You And I:
 - **Do** Deserve:
 - For Our Sins!
- And It Includes:
 - Everything That The Apostle Paul:
 - Already Carefully Laid Out Against Us:
 - In The Earlier Chapters Of Romans!
- This Condemnation Includes:
 - Displeasure!
 - The Displeasure Of God Himself:
 - Referred To In 1:18 - "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness!"
- This Condemnation Includes:
 - Despair:
 - Because Of The Ongoing Judgment Of God Found In:
 - 1:24, 26, 28 - In That - "God also gave [us] up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts!"
- This Condemnation Includes:
 - Death - Physical, Spiritual, And Eternal:
 - Because Of What Is Said About Us:
 - In 1:32 - "Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them!"
- But "Now" - The Good News Of The Gospel Is This:
 - "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus!"
 - Absolutely None!
 - The Displeasure!
 - The Despair!
 - The Death!
 - That You Deserve:
 - Is No More!
- This Means:
 - That You Have Been:
 - Pardoned By God:
 - Both Fully And Forever:
 - For All Of Your Sins:
 - Past, Present, And Future!
 - This Is What We Find Going On:
 - In Hebrews 8:12 - When God Says:
 - "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more!"
- You Are Truly Free:
 - From The Condemnation:
 - Of Your Sin!
 - And That's A Promise!

- Because - We Also Find In Romans 8:1:
- A Great Provider!
 - This Great Blessing:
 - Of Pardon & Forgiveness:
 - Of Your Sins - Comes Only:
 - 8:1 - "To them which are in Christ Jesus!"
 - It Is Christ Jesus:
 - And Your Connection With Him:
 - That Makes Your Freedom:
 - From Condemnation Possible!
 - And - The Connection:
 - That You Receive:
 - With Christ Jesus:
 - When You Believe In Him:
 - Is An Intimate Connection!
 - In Biblical Terms:
 - You Are United With Him!
 - This Means That:
 - Everything Jesus Is & Everything Jesus Did:
 - Is Applied Directly To Your Account!
 - One Writer Says:
 - To Be In Christ Jesus Means:
 - "To Enjoy The Benefits Of The Righteousness And Life That His Work On The Cross Secured!" (Arnold)
 - Back In 6:3-4 - The Apostle Paul:
 - Used The Illustration Of Baptism:
 - To Show The Connection:
 - That Christians Have:
 - With Christ!
 - "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? / Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life!"
 - Never Forget That:
 - Your Freedom:
 - From The Condemnation Of Sin:
 - Is Only Because You Are:
 - "In Christ Jesus!"
 - And - Give Him The Praise & The Glory He Is Due!
 - But - How Can You Really Know:
 - If You've Been Forgiven?
 - How Can You Really Know:
 - You Are Free From Condemnation?
 - Well - In The Last Part Of 8:1 - We Find:
 - A Great Proof!
 - And - A Great Assurance:
 - Of Your Justification By God!
 - As We Are Told - "Who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit!"
 - Now - In Some Translations:
 - 8:1 Ends Right After:
 - The Name Of "Jesus":
 - And - The Reason They Give Is That:
 - In A Few Of The Oldest Greek Manuscripts We Have From The 4th Cent:
 - Those Words Are Not There!
 - That May Be True - But - In The Vast Majority:
 - Of Greek Manuscripts:
 - That Were Used By Greek-Speaking Churches For Over A Thousand Years:
 - The Final Phrase - Which Is Repeated In 8:4 As Well - Exists!
 - Even A Very Famous Preacher During The Fourth Century:
 - By The Name Of John Chrysostom:
 - Quoted Romans 8:1 In His Writings:

- With The Whole Verse Intact:
 - Making His Reference Even Older Than The Oldest Manuscripts We Have!
- Not Only That:
 - But - This Phrase Neatly Ties Together:
 - The Experience Paul Describes:
 - Toward The End Of Chapter 7!
 - The Struggle Between The Different Laws & Impulses A Christian Has!
 - The Struggle Between:
 - The "Law Of The Mind" - Which:
 - Has Been Renewed By God:
 - And:
 - The "Law Of Sin" - Which:
 - Still Tries To Draw You Away:
 - From The "Law Of God" Through The "Law Of Your Flesh!"
 - And So - When Paul Adds:
 - "Who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit!"
 - I Believe He Provides:
 - A Great Proof Of The Pardon:
 - One Has As A Christian!
 - Because - This Is Not:
 - A **Condition** For Your Freedom:
 - But - Instead - It Is:
 - A **Description** Of Your Freedom!
 - Instead Of "Walking" And Living:
 - The Old Way - Which Was:
 - The Only Way You Knew How:
 - "After & According To The Impulse Of Your Flesh!"
 - Now - You Are "Walking" And Living:
 - The New Way - In "Newness Of Life!"
 - Which Is "After & According To The Impulse Of The Holy Spirit!"
 - Who Now Indwells You!
 - And - By Introducing:
 - The Holy Spirit In This Verse:
 - We Can Understand:
 - Why & Even How:
 - There Is This Internal Struggle In Our Christian Lives!
 - After All - It Is The Holy Spirit Of God:
 - Who Is The Source:
 - Of Any Good In Your Heart And Life!
 - Any Good:
 - Desire - Like The Desire:
 - In 7:19 - "The Good That I Would!"
 - Any Good:
 - Delight - Like The Delight:
 - Of 7:22 - "For I Delight In The Law Of God After The Inward Man!"
 - Any Good:
 - Direction - Like The Direction:
 - In 7:25 - "So Then With The Mind I Myself Serve The Law Of God!"
- What A Wonderful Thing For A Christian!
 - Not Only Does God:
 - Promise You:
 - "No Condemnation!"
 - When You Believe In The Jesus Christ:
 - And Become United With Him!
 - But - God Also:
 - Provides You With:
 - The Means Of Assurance:
 - For Your Pardon:

- Through The Holy Spirit!

- Even As We Will See:

- In 8:16 - "The Spirit itself / Himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God!"

- And - As A Child Of God:

- You Are Free - Absolutely Free:

- From The Condemnation Of Sin!

* But - Second - You Are Also:

2. **Free From The Control Of Sin!**

- Which Is What We Find In The Next Verse:

- 8:2 - "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death!"

- Here - We Have Another "Law" Mentioned:

- By The Apostle Paul:

- The "Law Of The Spirit Of Life":

- Who We Were Just Introduced To In 8:1!

- And - This Is The Reason:

- Why There Is "Now No Condemnation!"

- So That Now, You Have:

- As A Christian:

- Freedom From The Power Of Sin!

- Which Is Indicated:

- There At The End Of The Verse:

- "From The Law Of Sin And Death!"

- Now - Remember:

- Where Paul Defines The "Law" For Us - He Is Using The Term:

- In A General Sense!

- The "Law Of Sin" Was Mentioned:

- In 7:25 As Well - And Refers To:

- The Control That Sin:

- Once Had Over You:

- As Your Master And King!

- And - Sin Was:

- A Very Harsh Task-Master:

- Over You!

- How Do We Know?

- Because - It Always Leads To:

- "Death!"

- Now - Sin Might Try To Mask And Disguise Its Intent! **IE:** Masks

- But - Instead Of The Pleasure:

- Sin Promises - It Always Will Bring:

- God's Punishment!

- And - That Is Why Paul Describes It As:

- "The Law Of Sin And Death!"

- Because - Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death!" - And - James 1:15 -

"When lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death!"

- But - What Has God Done For You:

- In Regard To This Old "Law" That:

- Used To Control You?

- 8:2 - He Has "Made [You] Free From The Law Of Sin And Death!"

- Praise God!

- Sin Is No Longer Your Master!

- Because - You've Been Given:

- Freedom Through The Power Of The Spirit!

- And - 8:2 - "The Law Of The Spirit Of Life!"

- This Refers To:

- The Control That **God:**

- Now Has Over You:

- As Your **New** Master And King!

- The Moment You Are Saved:
 - The Holy Spirit Of God:
 - Makes Your Heart:
 - His Home!
 - And Now - There Are Those New Interests & New Insights & New Impulses:
 - From God Himself!
 - And The Rule Of The Holy Spirit:
 - In Your Life:
 - Is So Much Better:
 - Than The Old!
 - How Do We Know?
 - Because He Is:
 - The "Spirit Of Life!"
 - This Not Only Means That:
 - He *Is* Life!
 - It Also Means That:
 - He *Imparts* Life!
 - And It Is His Life:
 - That Gives You Liberty:
 - To Live Now For The Glory Of God!
 - And This Freedom:
 - Is All Made Possible Through The:
- Freedom In The Power Of The Savior!
 - 8:2 - "For the law of the Spirit of life *in Christ Jesus hath made me free* from the law of sin and death!"
- So Now:
 - For Anyone Who Is "In Christ Jesus" - You Are:
 - Truly Free From:
 - The Control Of Sin!
 - Now - The Question May Come To Mind:
 - What About 7:14:
 - "I am carnal, sold under sin!"
 - What About 7:23:
 - "But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members!"
 - How Can I Really Be Free:
 - From The *Control* Of Sin:
 - When I Still Experience:
 - This *Struggle* With Sin:
 - Sometimes - With Great Intensity?
 - This Is Another One Of Those Times:
 - Where Christians Must:
 - Live And "Walk By Faith, Not By Sight!" (2 Corinthians 5:7)
 - You Must Believe:
 - The Truth Of God:
 - About Your Freedom - Over:
 - The Lie Of Sin:
 - About Its Control!
 - And - As Paul Told Us:
 - In 6:11 - "Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord!"
 - As A Christian:
 - You Really And Truly Have Been Given:
 - Freedom From The Control:
 - Of Sin!
 - No Condemnation!
 - No Control!

* And Then - Third - You Are Also:

3. ***Free From The [Very] Clutches Of Sin!***

- And Its Captivity - Which Is Given To Us In:
 - 8:3-4 - "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: / That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit!"
 - One Thing That Sin Has Going For It:
 - Is That It Has A Very Strong Grasp:
 - On Sinners Like Us!
 - It Just Doesn't Want To Let Go:
 - Of Its Prey!
 - **IE:** Monkey Trap! Hunters - Banana In A Jar!
 - And - It Will Do & Use Anything It Can:
 - To Prevent You:
 - From Escaping Clutches Of Its Deadly Claws!
 - It Will Even Use God's Own Law:
 - Against You!
 - But - This Is Where We See:
- God's Concern:
 - For You And For Me!
 - He Was Concerned For:
 - The Weakness Of Our Flesh!
 - 8:3a - "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God [DID]!"
 - God Knew That His Law:
 - Was Powerless To Overcome:
 - The Control And The Captivity:
 - Of Sin In Your Life!
 - In Fact - It Was Only Given:
 - To Reveal The:
 - True Nature Of Your Sin:
 - And Your True Need:
 - Of A Savior!
 - But - His Law Was Still:
 - "Holy And Just And Good!" (7:12)
 - But - As John Gill Once Put It:
 - "Human Nature Is So Weakened By Sin, That It Is Incapable Of Fulfilling The Law; The Weakness Of The Law is Not From Itself, But From Man!"
 - And So - God - Out Of His Great Concern:
 - For You And Your Weakness:
 - Made Another Way To Freedom!
 - A Better Way! And That Was Through:
 - God's Commission:
 - And Sending Of His Son:
 - To Be Your Savior - 8:3b - "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, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh!"
 - This Is The Gospel!
 - God Sent His Own Eternal Son:
 - Lovingly - John 3:16-18a - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. / For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. / He that believeth on him is not condemned!"
 - "No Condemnation!"
 - But Even More - God's Own Son, Jesus, Came:
 - Willingly - Philippians 2:7 - "But [He] made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men!"
 - And This Was All:
 - According To God's:
 - Eternal Plan!
 - Jesus Was Born Into This World:
 - "In The Likeness Of Sinful Flesh!"
 - This Statement Is So Carefully Worded:

- To Not Only Show:
 - Jesus True Humanity - But Also:
 - His Perfect Purity!
- The Flesh He Took For Himself:
 - Was A True Human Nature And Body!
 - It Was Just Like Yours & Mine!
 - When Mary Held Baby Jesus In Her Arms:
 - His Flesh Was:
 - Like Her Flesh - That Had Been Weakened And Worn By The Ravages Of Sin Since The Beginning!
 - And That Is Why Jesus Could/Would Experience:
 - Sorrow And Hunger, Pain And Even Anguish And Fear!
 - But - Even Though His Flesh:
 - Was Prone To The *Effects* Of Sin:
 - It Was Not Prone:
 - To The *Bent* Of Sin!
 - For He Was “Holy, Harmless, undefiled!” (Hebrews 7:26)
- Because - He Was Also Sent:
 - According To God’s:
 - Eternal Purpose!
 - He Came - 8:3b - “For Sin” - So That God Could - “Condemn sin in the flesh!”
- God Lovingly Sent - And Jesus Willingly Came:
 - So That The Condemnation:
 - That You And I Deserve:
 - For Our Sin:
 - Could Be Carried Out:
 - On The Cross!
 - Even As We Are Told In:
 - Hebrews 2:14 - “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil!”
- And Now - By Trusting In Him:
 - You Are Free:
 - From The Clutch Of Sin And Satan!
 - And That Is Because Of:
- God’s Completion:
 - Which We Find In 8:4:
 - “That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us!”
 - All Of The Righteous Demands:
 - Of God’s Law:
 - Which You And I Could Never Fulfill:
 - In Jesus Christ - Have Been “Fulfilled In Us” & For Us!
 - “Fulfill” Here In The Passive Voice! And:
 - This Means That:
 - The Precepts Of The Law:
 - Which You Could Not Perfectly Keep:
 - Were Fulfilled By Jesus:
 - And Were Reckoned / Imputed To Your Account!
 - It Also Means That:
 - The Punishment Of The Law:
 - Which You Could Not Bear:
 - Was Also Fulfilled By Jesus:
 - So That His Death Was In Place Of Your Own!
 - And With The Work Of God:
 - Completed - By Faith In The Lord Jesus Christ:
 - You Now Become:
- God’s Child!
 - Which Is Why We See For The Second Time The Phrase:
 - Of 8:4b - “Who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit!”
 - Once Again - This Is Not:

- The **Condition**:
 - Of Your Freedom:
- But A **Description**:
 - Of Your Freedom!
- As God's Child:
 - You Have Been Given:
 - The Capacity:
 - To Now Walk - "After The Spirit!"
- And So - Through - God's Sending **For** You:
 - The Son's Coming **To** You:
 - And The Spirit's Indwelling **In** You:
 - The Whole Trinity:
 - Was & Still Is Involved:
 - To Bring You Freedom From The:
 - The Clutches Of Sin - Which Are Growing Weaker & Weaker!

Conclusion:

1. Do You Have This Freedom:
 - In Your Life Today?
 - Is There Assurance In Your Heart:
 - That You Are Free From:
 - The Condemnation Of Sin?
 - The Control Of Sin? And:
 - The Clutch Of Sin?
 2. God Wants You To Know:
 - That In Jesus Christ:
 - This Freedom Can Truly Be Yours!
 - If You Aren't Sure:
 - Turn From Yourself:
 - And Trust In Christ:
 - This Very Moment, This Very Day!
 - Believe That:
 - John 8:36 - "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.
 - And - If You Are Sure:
 - Then Remember To:
 - "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free!"
- * Have You Been Given Freedom From The Condemnation Of Your Sin?
 * Do You Believe That You Are Free From The Controlling Power Of Sin?
 * Are You Living In A Way That Shows Your Freedom From The Clutches Of Sin?

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