

Scripture: Romans 8:1-11

Catechism LD 17

Singing: 309:1-4 – 232:1-3 – 141:1 – 137:6 – 121:1, 3, 4

Encouragement ...

A. Keep digging into the truths of our only comfort as laid out in Galatians

B. Keep climbing for new heights in Romans 8

1. Romans 8 is like Mt. Everest among the mountains of truth

● Hodge: *The salvation of those who have renounced the law and accepted the gracious offers of the Gospel, is shown to be absolutely certain. The whole chapter is a series of arguments, most beautifully arranged, in support of this one point. They are all traced back to the great source of hope and security: the unmerited and unchanging love of God in Christ Jesus.*

2. The comfort of Romans 8 stand in contrast with the reality of Romans 7:24

THE SPIRIT'S INDWELLING (1)

I. The meaning II. The evidence III. The comfort

I. The meaning of the Spirit's indwelling: *seen in contrast with the carnal mind*

A. Paul contrasted the unregenerate (vs. 7-8) with the regenerate (vs. 9-11)

1. If unregenerate you *are in the flesh*

a. vs. 7 informs that *being unregenerate* is not just a 'passive state'

● carnal mind is rooted in enmity against God

● how enmity evident: *in resistance against Law of God (7b)*

● our sinful nature *can never yield* subjection to God's law

b. vs. 7 is a harsh and cold truth

● denying this truth means you need to make a huge cut in Bible

● this truth of our moral inability is backdrop of Jesus absolute
Ye must be born again (John 3:3)

c. vs. 8 is most unflattering and offensive

- even your best works are 'dead works' (Heb. 9:14; Prov 15:8)

2. What is the remedy for this condition: Ezekiel 36:25-38

a. take your care to JEHOVAH God

- be convinced that He is the only soul Physician able to save

- be also convinced that He is willing to receive you

B. The regenerate heart is not in the flesh but in the Spirit (vs. 9)

1. To be in Spirit is to be in the state of grace (to be born again)

a. in contrast, now the Spirit of God or Christ is filling heart

b. in contrast to vs. 8, this means that such actually do please God

2. To be in the Spirit means we have the Holy Spirit ***dwell within***

a. to dwell means *to live within or inhabit* (like contrast in Rom. 7:20)

b. this is the Spirit of the resurrection (vs. 11)

c. this is the Spirit which by His power raises us up to a new life (LD. 17)

Living these truths ...

A. Be alarmed if you an unconverted sinner!

1. We are as an unregenerate unable to please God at all

2. But it does please God when turn to Him: *and him that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out* (John 6:37b)

B. Those of us who have Spirit of Christ dwelling within, avoid grieving Him

1. We can grieve Him in many ways

2. Exercise yourself to avoid grieving Him like Paul (Acts 24:16)