

No Condemnation Now or Ever

Sermon 20 in the Romans Series

Rom. 8:1-4

Two weeks ago we studied Romans 7:13-25 By way of review

1. The Law shows the Christian our sin so we will flee to Christ.
2. The law has 2 effects on the lost.
 - 1) The law may make them worse as they rebel against it.
 - 2) The law may cause a man or a woman to be more restrained in their sin and become more moral, but the law cannot give the power to live in perfection.

7:14 -- Proof of remaining sin -- even as a new creature, I still sin

7:15 -- Proof of true Christianity -- a new motive

7:16-24 -- Proof of true Christianity -- a new battle

I. Freedom in Christ -- No Condemnation – v. 1

In his book [*The Pilgrim's Progress*](#), John Bunyan describes a battle between the accuser, Apollyon, and Christian in the Valley of Humiliation.

A tactic Apollyon (that is the Devil) uses is to recite a laundry list of Christian's sins:

“Thou didst faint at first setting out, when thou wast almost choked in the Slough of Despond; thou didst attempt wrong ways to be rid of thy burden, whereas thou shouldst have stayed till thy Prince had taken it off; thou didst sinfully sleep and lose thy choice thing; thou wast also almost persuaded to go back at the sight of the lions; and when thou talkest of thy journey, and of what thou hast heard and seen, thou art inwardly desirous of vain-glory in all that thou sayest or doest.”

Christian's wise response to the accuser is full of humility and faith: “All this is true; and much more which thou hast left out: but the Prince whom I serve and honor is merciful and ready to forgive. But besides, these infirmities possessed me in thy country; for there I sucked them in, and I have groaned under them, been sorry for them, and have obtained pardon of my Prince.”

II. Freedom from the Law of Sin and Death – v. 2

The law (principle) of sin and death

III. Freedom from the Curse of the Law by the Gospel – v. 3

What the law could not do – this is the Law of God summarized in the 10 commandments.

IV. Freedom from Lawlessness by the Spirit -- v. 4

“might be fulfilled” – is a aorist passive subjunctive. “Passive” not our action. The action of another on us. “might” is not maybe yes or maybe no. It is in the subjunctive voice - a purpose clause. For the purpose of.

“walk” is a present active participle. It is what we do as Christians as part of our sanctification process.