

NEW LIFE
“Flesh | Spirit”
Romans 8:5-13

READ 8:5-13

Romans 7:21-25 The Message

²¹⁻²³It happens so regularly that it's predictable. The moment I decide to do good, sin is there to trip me up. I truly delight in God's commands, but it's pretty obvious that not all of me joins in that delight. Parts of me covertly rebel, and just when I least expect it, they take charge.

²⁴I've tried everything and nothing helps. I'm at the end of my rope. Is there no one who can do anything for me? Isn't that the real question?

²⁵The answer, thank God, is that Jesus Christ can and does. He acted to set things right in this life of contradictions where I want to serve God with all my heart and mind, but am pulled by the influence of sin to do something totally different.

I. A life lived according to the flesh (vs. 5-8)

1. Death: loss of influence for the Kingdom of God (vs. 5-6)
2. Hostile to God: thwart progress of the Gospel (vs.7)
3. Cannot please God: hinder spiritual discernment (vs. 8)

II. A life lived according to the Spirit (vs. 5-6,9-13)

1. Experiences life and Peace (vs. 5-6)
2. Receives the Holy Spirit upon conversion (vs. 9)

a) Seals your salvation

Ephesians 1:13-14, “In him, you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.”

b) Begins an inner transformation

c) Has a divine helper but an imputed living spirit (vs. 10)

3. Has a dying body but an invigorated living spirit (vs. 10)

4. Has a body that will one day be resurrected (vs. 11)

5. Is obligated to live a righteous life (vs. 12-13)