

The Book of Romans

SECTION FOUR

Chapter 8

THE BELIEVER'S
SECURITY IN CHRIST

Safe, Secure, and Shielded

In This Section of Romans, we will see the following Truths:

1. **That Jesus Christ will make at least five evident changes in the life of the Christian (8:1-17)**
2. **That God's investment in us is completely secure (8:18-39)**

The Book of Romans

Chapter Eight - *Safe, Secure, and Shielded*

I. Introduction - Greatest Book in the New Testament for the Christian!

- A. In the **Gospels**, we have the account of the life of Jesus Christ. From that life, we learn the lessons that He taught and lived, and the truths that He demonstrated.
- B. In the **Acts**, those truths are lived out in the lives of His disciples.
- C. In the remainder of the NT, those truths are outlined, and explained in further detail. Biblical truths are called “doctrine.” Doctrine is what we build our lives upon - nobody wants to build their life on the sands of lies and deceit (ie, modern marriage, modern friendships, etc).
- D. **Romans** defines the foundation of all NT truths in just one book. There is a lot in it, and it takes time to grasp these truths, simply because most of us have not been exposed to truth, but to religious lies.

II. Some Background - Review of Chapter 7, Problems With the Old Man

- A. In Chapter Seven we saw a great conflict in the life of the believer with “the old man” (our old nature). The conflict was whether the Christian would surrender his choice and will to the sinful ways of their flesh, or to the Spirit.
- B. We learned that Christ Jesus delivers us in three stages (2Cor 1:9,10):
 1. We have already been delivered from the eternal punishment of our sin by Christ at the cross,
 2. We are in the process of being delivered from the power of sin over our lives by Christ through our daily surrender
 3. We will be delivered from the very presence of sin by our arrival in heaven! Until that day, we still have to deal with sin’s influence on our life.
- C. It is in the area of _____ that the Christian has the most problems because, without surrender to the Spirit, the flesh dominates.
- D. But those problems have been accounted for by God by the provision of five “tools” or fortifiers that both balance out the Christians’ life in favour of holiness, and enables us to defeat the problems every time.
- E. Beyond that, the Lord then shows us the *security* of His investment in us - that He has done so much for us and in us, that He will not permit the loss of His investment, once it has been allowed to begin!

III. Focus Verse: Romans 8:1

IV. Study Outline of Romans Chapter Eight

- A. **The Five-Fold _____ of Christ in the Life of the Believer** (8:1-17). When a person gets married, there are certain “signs” of married life that just cannot be hid to other people (ie, no more “freedom,” eating better, children coming along, change of residence, practicality in spending, etc). The same is true when a person invites Christ Jesus to enter their life.
 1. The Christians’ New _____ (8:1-4) Without fear of Condemnation
 - a. When a person was lost, without Christ, their “walk”, direction, and destiny was _____-bound (Cf Matt 7:13,14). They were “under condemnation” (John 3:18,36). It is the fear of hell, and of a righteous God that directs a sinner to completely trust Christ to SAVE them!
 - b. Once a person trusts Christ (are “in Christ Jesus”, 2Cor 5:17), they have a new walk (a new life-style of _____):
 - 1) Right relationship with God (8:1; 5:1; John 5:24)
 - 2) Right direction - headed for heaven
 - 3) Right companion - *along with* God (Cf Gen 5:22; 6:9), and “in” Christ - best place to be!
 - 4) Right desires - to seek after (follow) the Holy Spirit
 - 5) Right attitude - no more fear of hell. The eternal punishment for our sins has been taken care of. NOTE: Sins still bring about punishment in this life - you cannot just do as you please (Gal 6:7,8)!
 - c. This new walk is free from the chains of sin and death (8:2) that were pulling me down the path to hell. But I now have surrendered to the law of the Spirit, which binds me to Christ
 - d. The weakness of the Law was _____, my inability to keep it (8:3)

- e. So God took the initiative, and came in my very likeness, and _____ sin in the flesh, so that it would be powerless to damn me, once I trusted Christ (8:3).
- f. From my salvation, the righteousness of the law was “fulfilled” in me (because Christ, who Himself fulfilled the Law, is in me), and is DEMONSTRATED by my no longer walking AFTER the desires of the flesh, but AFTER the things of the Spirit (8:4). ***If this is not evident, it is simply because Christ is not IN ME*** (Cf 2Cor 13:5)!
- 1) ***The greatest evidence of salvation therefore is a changed life!***
 - 2) Having a heart after God (Act 13:22); doing things out of love for Christ, not out of fear (John 14:15); having an eternal perspective
- g. Question: Is a Christian ever judged at all? YES! Not as far as eternal life is concerned, but concerning our level of responsibility, and obedience. Dealing with this life (_____, 1Cor 11:29-32), and at the Judgment Seat of Christ (Christian rewards). More about this stuff later.
2. The Christians’ New _____ (8:5-8)
- a. “Minding” means obeying, paying attention to, setting your mind to do something.
 - b. A person who is going after the things of the flesh (the world, 1 John 2:14,15), cannot be going after the things of the Spirit.
 - c. Dealing mainly with those who are lost, and yet claim to be religious. “Carnal” means worldly, fleshly
 - d. Check your mind. What does it focus on? Do you renew it daily (Ro 12:2) in God’s word? Do you keep it under control (2Cor 10:4,5)? Or is it rebellious toward God (1 Pe 2:7,8)?
 - e. For the Christian to “mind” the things of the Spirit involves catering to God, obeying God, thinking and meditating on right things (Philp 4:8).
 - f. The unsaved mind only results in DEATH no matter how advanced! Do you know what the birth to death ratio was 2000 years ago was? 1/1. Do you know what it is today? 1/1!
 - g. The Spiritual mind results in **life** and **peace** (2 Tim 1:7). If a person’s life is a wreck, it is not because of Christ! If a Christian can’t handle problems, it is not Christ’s fault - they have their minds on carnal things, and not resting on Christ (Isa 26:3)
 - h. “Enmity” is when something makes another person your enemy. More and more “Christians” who think that God is their loving Father, really are the enemy of God - against God and limiting God
 - i. Those who are unsaved, cannot please God at all (Heb 11:6)!
3. The Christians’ New _____ (8:9-11,14) - No longer dependent upon just your conscience to guide you - He has a BIG job!
- a. The Christian is “in” Christ - Not “in” the flesh (bound to it)
 - b. The Holy Spirit is a Person - alive - not just a force.
 - c. The Holy Spirit indwells the Christian (1Cor 6:19). He is in you for a purpose - to help you: to make sure that you get to heaven. If He wasn’t sealed in you, then you could lose Him, and there would be no confidence of salvation!
 - d. The Spirit is how Jesus manifests Himself in you. He reveals Jesus to you through the pages of Scripture (John 14:26)
 - e. He helps keep your body “dead” (turned off). If Christ is “in” you then the body has been rendered “dead” because sin has been paid for and defeated at the cross. Reminds you of this - to let the body go - don’t tend to it so much (1 Tim 4:8)
 - f. The Holy Spirit provides you with a whole new life, more abundant than anything this life could ever offer (John 10:10). He helps you have a full life, & enjoy eternal life now!
 - g. The source of power in the life of the Christian is the same that raised up Jesus from the dead (Philp 3:10). No limit to what you and God can’t do together (Philp 4:13)
 - h. He makes sure that your body is “changed” at the resurrection
 - i. So, use your new Helper to:
 - 1) Keep sin under control in your life - let Him have your attention
 - 2) Keep your light shining bright to a lost world
 - 3) Serve the Lord Jesus - He is your strength, and drive
 - 4) Pray through your troubles and battles - use *Him!*

- 5) Begin to enjoy life - not because of your circumstances, but because of your Saviour, salvation, security, purpose, and results - all eternal, not temporary!

4. The Christians' New _____ (8:12,13,14)

- a. The Christian used to owe the flesh for pleasure (Heb 11:23-25), and owed God for sin (Ps 51:4). There is no "free lunch"
- b. To mortify is to put to death - a decision to disregard the domination of the flesh, so that you can respond to the leading of the Holy Spirit - let it die (that is what it will try to tell you that it is doing - like when a person comes off drugs: they feel like they are going to die - well, if so be - but you wont - you will find life)!
- c. Look at the warning to the Christians - NOT to follow the flesh, or it will kill you! Question: if a Christian takes drugs, will it not kill them just as fast as it will a lost man? YES!
- d. The Christian is obligated to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit (Luke 6:46) in doing the word, & the will of God. He will "lead" the Christian in keeping out of trouble, making right decisions, and "through" the tough times - just like the Lord "led" the Israelites through each battle, and wilderness.
- e. It is that "leading" of the God's Spirit that demonstrates (confirms) our relationship with Christ! God leads people in the following ways:
 - 1) To repentance - salvation (2Pet 3:9)
 - 2) To come out of the old life - separation
 - 3) To pray - urges us when and why and what for
 - 4) To follow Christ - live His life through yours
 - 5) To serve Christ - maturity because of the cost required
 - 6) To heaven - He leads the way for and takes us

It is important to not quench the work of the Spirit (1Thes 5:19)

5. The Christians' New _____ (8:15-17)

- a. **Adopted into His family.** The laws of adoption are stronger than the laws of marriage. You can dissolve a marriage - but not an adoption.

ILLUS: Two boys in a park. One adopted, other natural born. The natural born makes fun of the adopted. Says you're no good! You are an adopted child. The adopted boy responds, "Oh yeah?! Well, your mam and daddy had to take you, but my mam and dad picked me!" AMEN! God "Picked" me!
 - 1) Can't get out of Christ once in (John 10:28)! Like being in an airplane. You can stumble and fall INSIDE a plane, but you don't fall OUT of it! Same with Christ!
 - 2) God loves you as much as if you were Jesus - Son of God
 - 3) The relationship you have is good enough that you relate to God as ABBA, (Hebrew) "DADDY!" not just "Father" - no disrespect! We don't cry "Our Father..." but DADDY! And we don't cry "Our Lady" or "Mary, Joseph and Jesus!" Ugh!
- b. **Heirs of His Riches!** Once you get into God's family, there is some inheritance to enjoy (1Pet 1:4). Dealing also with amount of inheritance - rewards conditioned upon our service record (honourable or ashamed) - suffering for Christ as we stand (2Cor 4:17). The Christian earns eternal rewards (treasures, Mt 6:19,20) that are presented at the Judgment Seat of Christ (2Cor 5:10,11)! This leads to the next aspect. Bearing Christ's name involves bearing His shame as well (Cf Heb 12:2)
- c. **Soldiers of His _____** (2 Tim 2:1-4). The relationship that we now have with Jesus is not an easy one to bear (Luke 9:23-26)

B. **God's Secure _____ in Us** (8:18-39) - Focus on 8:38,39

Define Eternal Security: Safe from condemnation for all eternity - cannot forfeit your salvation once you have obtained it by faith in Christ's finished work on the cross. Eternal Security is a FACT. Assurance is a FEELING!

1. We are Secure Because **He wont let anything slip** - He has it all worked out (8:18-23)

- a. All creation is waiting for correction back to Eden - begins to occur at the Second Coming of Christ (8:18-22)
- 1) Right now, everything is cursed - everything! Everything dies/struggles/fights! Everything is messed-up: hurricanes, earthquakes, mass-murders, the Middle East, road accidents (Job 5:7). Darwin and his survival of the fittest was not evolution, but the curse!
 - 2) Everything in this universe has been made subject to _____ (self-centered) by the fall of Adam. Satan is the ruler - all creatures are his subjects! But God has the thing worked out so that we have hope - we have something to look forward to - a SURE hope
 - 3) Everything is groaning and travailing for something better- like a woman in childbirth - a very long childbirth
 - a) That is all politicians talk about - a better day
 - b) Positive thinking - look on the bright side
 - c) Problem is: they all think they can do it without Christ coming back!

Everything is waiting for the day when Christians (“the sons of God”) are clearly manifested - when that which is in me, is apparent (8:18) - at the second coming
- b. My soul and my spirit are saved, but my body isn’t - so God will take care of that as well (8:23). He will retrieve me one day, and then later on will come get my body and *change* it
- 1) We already are the children of God (1 John 3:2). We have the firstfruits of the Spirit - salvation (8:23).
 - 2) But we are stuck in these cursed bodies - we look forward (work & wait) until a day that we will be free - redeemed physically. People put the emphasis on the material and not the spiritual - they want *healing* instead of salvation. Want an exclusive home instead of a mansion in heaven! Want lots of money instead of treasures in heaven.
 - 3) This is our HOPE (8:24,25; 15:13; Heb 6:16; Tit 1:2)!
2. We are Secure Because **God has the Holy Spirit making up for what you cannot do as a Christian** (8:26-27; John 15:5) - He is on your side - use Him!!! Or better yet, let Him use you!
- a. When you are _____ - plagued with infirmities (2Cor 12:10). Notice the Spirit “helpeth” our infirmities - doesn’t promise to *heal* them! Take a good look at that!
- 1) Infirmities are meant by God to keep us humble and dependent
 - 2) Infirmities are meant by Satan to keep us from praying
- So we need God’s Holy Spirit dominating our lives so that we do as we ought, and do it right!
- b. When you _____. When you don't even know how to pray or what to pray, He is interceding, translating (Ex 19:7,8)!
- 1) *Groanings* - heartbreaks, disappointments, troubles (Ro 8:26,22,23; Ps 6:6; Lk 22:44; 2Cor 5:1-4)
 - 2) *Searching* - to find the will of God, blessing (Ro 8:27) God trusts His Spirit to tell Him what you need (Mt 6:8). Most of our prayers are not answered simply because we pray completely contrary to God’s will (8:27). Learn to listen to the Spirit of God in your life, and pray that way!
3. We are Secure Because **God’s plan hasn’t changed** (8:28-34)
- a. God Made a _____ (8:28) - to work everything out!
- 1) The Christian’s confidence - We KNOW how things are going to work out!!!! God gave us a SURE word of prophecy (promise) as said Peter in 2Pet 1:19
 - 2) ALL things (Gen 50:20; Ro 5:3,4; 2Cor 4:15-17)!!!
 - 3) The working of things together - not *apart* - true evolution is controlled - by GOD (Philp 2:13; 1:6)! True evolution (things getting better) is only for the true Christian, and only because God works it out! Chance fails, science fails, natural selection fails!
 - 4) For GOOD. Satan CANNOT triumph (Isa 14:12-15)
 - 5) It is only for those who “*love God*.” It is dealing with Christians - the first commandment! The unsaved cannot claim this verse. But the Christian *can* leave their love (Rev 2:4)! But, even in

spite of our failure to love God as we ought, God still is going to work things out for us! All because of the next verse!

- 6) This verse is only for those who are _____ **according to HIS purpose** - surrendered to live in His will and purpose - you can either be going WITH God, or AGAINST Him! Even as a Christian! God does the calling (Gen 3:6-8), and we sinners do the responding!
 - a) Just as Abraham (who was unsaved) was “called out” of his homeland and family, so is the sinner called to forsake all and follow Christ.
 - b) Just as the Jews were “called out” of Egypt to follow Moses, so is the unsaved called out by God to come to Christ (Mt 11:28,29) and to follow Him (Mt 4:19)
 - c) Like a woman is called by her suitor to take on his name, so is the sinner called by Christ to take on His name (2 Chron 7:14).

- b. God’s Plan - His Purpose (8:29-30) - How God will do the impossible - make everything work together for good
 - 1) Based on _____ first (1Pet 1:2; Eph 1:4,5; 2 Thes 2:13; Gal 3:8) Not dealing with “foreordination”
 - a) *Knowing* who would get saved - not *making* people get saved (2Pet 3:9) - He does not fore-ordain
 - b) See it in the life of Pharaoh (Ex 3:19)
 - c) Free-will is imperative (Dt 30:19,20)
 - 2) _____. Simply means that your destiny is fixed! But a person’s destiny is only fixed, once they have Christ. Until then, they are sliding down - *in need of salvation*. So “predestination” means:
 - a) Not *to be* saved, but *to be secure* once saved! The Christians destiny is fixed! The unsaved’s is not! They can repent and get saved at any time (Jo 3:36)!
 - b) Not *to be* converted, but to be conformed to the image of Christ once you got saved!
 - c) Not *to be* born again, but to be a brother of Jesus Christ, once you got born again. Stating that your salvation elevated you to brother of Christ, son of God, adopted in God’s family, & joint heir (8:15-17)
 - 3) The _____ - God’s Purpose in the life of the believer - is simply to follow Christ. To follow Him in their life out of religion, out of sin, out of our own way, and to heaven, and to God. Every sinner is “called”, but every Christian becomes “the called” or the ones who responded! It is for “the called” that God has His wonderful purpose!
 - 4) The _____ - Justification is dependent upon our response to the call of God to turn to Christ. “Justified” means that God was able to completely “justify” your eternal life - there is no loose ends for you to fill!
 - 5) To be _____ - Glorification is HEAVEN! God has promised to get everyone who trusts in Christ Jesus to heaven (Ps 73:24,25). This is the goal of God’s plan!

- c. The _____ of God’s Plan (8:31-34)
 - 1) We are made the “untouchables” Once we got on God’s side (turned to Christ for forgiveness, and salvation), God from that moment became FOR us (whereas before He was AGAINST us - John 3:36)
 - 2) We have everything this world is dying to obtain! We are heirs of everything that God owns (8:16,17)
 - 3) We are debt-free for all eternity. No one can charge us with any sin, and condemn a true Christian (5:1; 8:1)
 - 4) All because of Jesus Christ!!! We had NOTHING to do with it except repentance, and simple confident trust!

Review-

1. *We are Secure Because **He wont let anything slip** - He has it all worked out (8:18-23) and it will be worth everything you may go through as a Christian*

2. *We are Secure Because **God has the Holy Spirit making up for what you cannot do as a Christian** (8:26-27; John 15:5) - He is on your side - use Him!!! Or better yet, let Him use you!*
3. *We are Secure Because **God's plan hasn't changed** (8:28-34)*

4. We are Secure Because **God's love never changes** (8:35-39)
 - a. Once God extends His love to the sinner at the cross, He can never retract it (Heb 13:5)
 - b. Events in our life cannot dissolve it
 - 1) Tribulations - troubles
 - 2) Distress - worries
 - 3) Persecutions - attacks
 - 4) Famine - times of need
 - 5) Nakedness - no clothes
 - 6) Peril - on brink of death
 - 7) The sword - military combat - wars!
 - c. For all practice purposes, a Christian is like a sheep headed to the slaughterhouse - yet we really are the winners! We already won the war (Christ did for us)!
 - d. God gave us His word to encourage us, and persuade the christian to rest in Christ because we are SAFE - SAVED!
 - 1) **Death** - you can't lose it when you die
 - 2) **Life** - you can't lose it while alive
 - 3) **Angels** - they can't take it from you.
 - 4) **Principalities** - the govern-ment and rulers can't take it away from you.
 - 5) **Powers** - not any spiritual power including the devil can cause you to lose it.
 - 6) **Things present** - nothing happening right now can take it away.
 - 7) **Things to come** - nothing in the future can make you lose it.
 - 8) **Height** - nothing above you.
 - 9) **Depth** - nothing below you.
 - 10) **Nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**
 - e. You cannot beat the security of salvation in Christ! If you are not saved, you have NO hope! If you have repented, and trust Christ alone, you are the recipient of God's unending love!

V. Conclusion to Chapter Eight

A. In this Section we have seen **The Beliver's Security in Christ**

1. Christ Effect on the Life of the Believer (8:1-17)
 - a. The Christians' New Walk (8:1-4) Without Condemnation
 - b. The Christians' New Mind (8:5-8) - After the Spirit
 - c. The Christians' New Helper (8:9-11,14) - The Holy Spirit
 - d. The Christians' New Obligation (8:12,13,14) - to Serve
 - e. The Christians' New Relationship (8:15-17) - Adopted!
2. God's Secure Investment in the Life of the Believer (8:18-39)
 - a. We are secure because he wont let us down - Wont let us fall
 - b. We are secure because God has the Holy Spirit making up for what we cannot do as Christians
 - c. We are secure because God's plan doesn't change
 - d. We are secure because God's love never changes (8:35-39)

B. In the next Section (Chapters 9-11), we will turn our attention on the Jews, and explore what happened to them as the people of God.

VI. Study Questions

A.