

## **Living the SPIRIT Directed Christian Life** **Romans 8:12-17**

### Introduction

Paul has revealed that we operate with a new identity or a New House. (Rom 6) Hence he commands us to live in that new position (6:12-13). However the reality is that we also live in this world in a Death House. (Rom 7) The battle is between the flesh and the Spirit. (Mk 14:38) The result is that I am a wretched man (7:25) The law will never defeat the flesh. So, God gave us a Power House (Rom 8) to enable us to defeat the power of the flesh give us the victory through the Spirit.

### Review

Romans 8:1 tells us that there is not only no longer a guilt for our sinful position (Rom 3-4 Justification- Delivered from the Penalty of Sin) but there is also a way to be removed from the Power of sin in our daily life. But this second aspect is conditioned on living out a life that is led by and lived according to the Spirit. (The long reading of 8:1)

This is the ability to live or walk according to the Spirit and not according to the flesh. Remember, a Christian is **IN** Christ (Identity or our position) but a Christian can live **According** to the Spirit or **According** to the flesh. (Our Practice or Mindset) But if we live according to the flesh we will experience a sense of death in our walk with the Lord and in fact, some experiences of sin can actually kill us physically as well. (I Jo 5, Jam 5)

The Christian life is to be lived by the resurrection power of the life of Jesus (Rom 5:9-10, 8:10-11) We can experience this power in our life and the intimacy that comes from it as we obey the word of the Lord (John 14:21) and thus experience fellowship with God moment by moment (I John 1) It is this power alone that will enable us to fulfill Paul's command in Rom 6:11-12 and be delivered from the body of sin (7:24-25)

I. The Request for the Spirit Life :12

II. The Reason for the Spirit Life :13-17

A. To Live :13

B. To Become Mature Sons :14-15

C. To Become a Joint Heirs :16-17

1. Inheritance for all (Eph 1:14 Col 1:12)
  
2. CO-Inheritance for some ( Eph 5, Col 3:24)
  
3. “Shall not inherit the kingdom of God” (Eph 5:5, Gal. 5:21, I Cor. 6:9)
  
3. Double portion of the Firstborn sons
  
4. The Bema Seat of Christ. I Cor 3, II Cor 5:9, Rom 14:10, I John 2:28
  
5. The “Abundant Entrance” into His kingdom (2 Peter 1:11, See Matt. 22:14)
  
6. The “Overcomer” who Rules (Rev. 2:25-26)

III. The Reality of the Future :18. (See 2 Cor. 4:17)

See: The Saving of the Life. The Salvation of the Soul Matt. 10,16, I Pt 1:9

The Christian life is only possible as the Spirit leads us. If the Spirit leads us, we experience the power and potential of resurrection life and control of the flesh. As we become conformed to the sufferings of Christ, we will become qualified to share in the ruler-ship of His kingdom. That is why, Right Now Counts Forever.