

Romans 8:1-4

Today we come to one of the great chapters in the Bible. We won't rush through this chapter. We will take our time and walk slowly to absorb the great truths in these 39 verses. Having finished chapter 7 in Romans, we were reminded by Paul of the struggle we have in our Christian life. Now in chapter 8 we are going to see the victory that is ours in Jesus! You may remember that Paul uses the first person almost 30 times in the 7th chapter. Romans 8 begins by taking our eyes off self and lifts them upward! Rather than looking inward at self, we are encouraged to look upward and say, "I am grateful God has me, I am safe, I am secure because of Jesus Christ." Paul reassured the Roman believers that their victory in Jesus was present and future! Chapter 8 begins with "no condemnation" and ends with "no separation."

Romans 8 is the Christian's "Declaration of Freedom," for in it Paul declares the four spiritual freedoms we enjoy because of our union with Jesus Christ. A study of this chapter shows the emphasis on the Holy Spirit, who is mentioned nineteen times. "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty" (2 Cor. 3:17).¹

Key Thought: Be assured, your victory in Jesus is present and future. In Christ you are safe and secure!

1. OUR VICTORY IS SAFE AND SECURE!

Romans 8:1 is the cardinal truth of every believer's new life in Christ. This is the truth by which we stand, by which we live, and through which we achieve victory. This is the badge of distinction for the saved, "There is therefore now no condemnation"!

a. The scope of our security - "now" and "no"

"Now" speaks in real time

"No" speaks for all-time

b. The sphere of our security – "in Christ Jesus"

"in Christ" is Paul's favorite expression to describe what it means to be a Christian.



2. OUR VICTORY IS REALIZED BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT! (v. 2)

How did we get into Christ? We literally have been placed into Him by the Holy Spirit who took us out of a condition of sin that leads to death and gave us life. That's why He's called the Spirit of life, the regenerating Spirit, the Spirit who is life – the life-giving Spirit. All those are used as phrases to describe the Holy Spirit.

- a. The principle of sin which fettered us!
- b. The principle of the Spirit which freed us!

3. OUR VICTORY IS EXPERIENCED BY THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT! (v. 3-4)

There is great emphasis on the Holy Spirit in Romans 8 and His work in the life of the believer. The secret to victory in the Christian life is walking in the Spirit.

- a. The weakness of the law (v. 3)
- b. The willingness of the Lord (v. 3)
- c. The walk of the Lord's people (v. 4)

TAKE AWAY:

- a. You can live with confidence and assurance you belong to Jesus Christ!
- b. You can live a victorious Christian life when you walk by the Spirit!