

SERIES TITLE: VICTORIOUS

PART ONE: OVER CONDEMNATION

TEXT: ROMANS 8:1-4

INTRODUCTION TO STUDY

James is the wisdom book of the New Testament. This series focuses on a section of the book that deals with four practical subjects: interpersonal conflict, prayer, decisions, and finances. In this text we find God's wisdom for each of these areas.

CONTEXT OF SCRIPTURE

Paul has spent the first seven chapters of Romans setting the reader up for what comes now in chapter eight. He introduced the idea of "new life under the Spirit" in 7:6, but now his argument turns directly to that life. Using the imagery of slavery, which his audience could clearly understand, he describes true freedom and the source of that freedom as Jesus Christ.

FOCUS QUESTION

If you have ever been pulled over for speeding, how did you feel about getting caught?
If you received a ticket, did paying the fine make you feel better or worse, and why?

EXAMINATION

v.1 The first word is "therefore." How would you sum up what that refers to?

What is condemnation?

On what basis can there be "no condemnation"?

v.2 What does it mean to be free from the law of sin and death?

v.3 Why is liberation possible?

v.4 What does it mean to walk in the flesh and in the Spirit?

EXPLORATION

- Deuteronomy 30:19-20
- Jeremiah 31:31-34
- Ezekiel 36:22-28

- John 3:3-8
- 1 Corinthians 2:10-16

APPLICATION.

- What difference should it make to your life right now to know that there is no condemnation for you?
- Consider how Hebrews 2:14-15 speaks to that question.
- If “in Christ” is about being organically attached to him, describe what a life in Christ looks like. How is it different from a life separated by Christ?
- Have you ever felt condemned even as a believer in Jesus? What made you feel that way? How should you overcome it?

SUMMATION

- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?