

## **FREEDOM FROM SIN – PART 4**

Romans 8:9-10 ... “But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.”

Our study of Romans 8 continues with the hope of all believers to be free of the chains of sin. Ephesians 1:13 reads: “...having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance...” The Holy Spirit is the power residing within you to break those chains.

As we have seen in previous parts of this series, we are faced in today’s passage with another conditional promise, meaning that what you choose to do, determines what God will do in your life. Today we see that “you are not in the flesh...IF indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you.” But we also see that “if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.” You receive the Spirit when you choose to follow Christ. There is no other way to acquire the power of God in you, except through the death of Christ for you.

Why does the verse first say “the Spirit of God,” and then “the Spirit of Christ?” Remember, there is only one God, but that he has three roles over his creation. So, there is only one Spirit. But in the context of today’s passage, we find two of God’s roles affecting our lives. The Spirit of God that dwells in a follower of Christ, refers to the INTENTIONS of God that we live righteous, holy and obedient lives. The Spirit of Christ refers to the saving aspect of God, in that through Christ – and only Christ – we have the ABILITY to live righteous, holy and obedient lives. It is God’s purpose that you live for him, and it is through Christ that you can.

Today’s passage ends with: “And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.” You are declared righteous by Christ when you accept his death for your sins; when He became your substitute on the cross. But the Holy Spirit, who is eternal and will never die, gives you life eternal because of your righteousness. It is the ultimate gift of the Holy Spirit of God to grant you eternal life in paradise IF Christ is in you in the form of His Spirit. The choice is yours.

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