

GOD FOR US: A Study in Romans 8

Life in the Spirit - Romans 8:9-11

July 9, 2017

But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. - **Romans 8:10**

I. A TRIUNE SALVATION

- Paul addresses the Romans (and us) directly now in vs. 9: “You, however...”
- Believers are no longer living in the flesh, but are now indwelt by the Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19; Eph. 1:13-14).
- Here we see the interchange in language: “Spirit of God” and “Spirit of Christ.” God is Triune, eternally distinct in Persons yet sharing a divine essence and will (John 10:30; 14:16-17, 21-23; 2 Cor. 13:14; Col. 1:15-20).
- To be filled with the Holy Spirit means salvation. To not be filled means no salvation. Our actions only point to the reality, or lack thereof, of the Spirit’s presence in our lives (Eph. 2:8-10).

II. IMMORTAL LIFE

- Our mortality dictates that we will die. Sin brings death (physical and spiritual). But through the Spirit, Christ brings life to our mortal bodies (vs. 10; 1 Cor. 15:35-58; Phil. 3:20-21).
- There is no Greek (or Gnostic) dualism in the Bible (body = bad / spirit = good). Our bodies will follow our spirit, and both will be renewed (Luke 24:44-49; John 20:26-29; Phil. 3:20-21; Col. 2:20-23).
- Once again, the Father resurrects, the Son is resurrected, and it is accomplished via the Spirit (vs. 11).
- This is the same Spirit of power that lives in you if you know Jesus (Eph. 1:15-20).

KNOW: Paul encourages the church in Rome — they are believers, if they indeed have the Spirit of God/Christ. Here we see a clear indication of the deity of Christ, and the reality that those who are born again possess the Spirit of God, and those who are not do not possess the Spirit of God. Believers are the walking dead. Sin puts us to death, but Christ raises us to bodily and immortal life.

DO: Live in the power of the Spirit of Christ.

Recommended Reading:

Lifted: Experiencing the Resurrection Life, Sam Allberry (LifePoint Library #232.9 ALL)

The Holy Spirit (Contours of Christian Theology), Sinclair Ferguson

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read Romans 8:9-11

1. How does Paul “switch gears” here in verse 9 to move toward encouraging the believers in Rome?
2. We spoke Sunday about how the Trinity is revealed in this text. Where else might we turn in Scripture to find evidence of a Triune God in Scripture?
3. In what ways might you find encouragement in the reality that our heavenly existence will be a bodily existence, not just spiritual?
4. In what ways can we “mortify” (put to death) sin in our lives? Why is it so hard to accomplish for most of us?
5. What has stood out to you the most in the first three messages through our study in Romans 8?
6. How might you apply what you’ve learned in your own life this week?