firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Freedom from Fear of Separation (vv. 31-19)

Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us?

³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him?

³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; ³⁴ who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us?

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁶ As it is written, "For thy sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸ For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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Dealing with Sin: The New Life

The Battle with Sin—part 3

Romans 8

August 9, 2015

Pressure or Freedom? (vv. 1-4)

Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free from the law of sin and death.

³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Who's Got Your Steering Wheel? (vv. 5-17)

The "Flesh" - man's nature with man in control

Rom. 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, indeed it cannot; ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh, you are in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although your bodies are dead because of sin, your spirits are alive because of righteousness.

Romans 8:11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit which dwells in you.

Romans 8:12 Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation-but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it.¹³ For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live,

Prove Myself or Be Myself? (vv. 14-17)

¹⁴ For all who are <u>led by the Spirit</u> of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the <u>spirit of sonship</u>. When we cry, "<u>Abba! Father</u>!"

¹⁶ it is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are <u>children of God</u>,

¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, <u>heirs of God</u> and <u>fellow heirs</u> <u>with Christ</u>, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Which Purpose of Life? -- Only 2. (vv. 18-25)

Bad "groaning"

Romans 8:18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.¹⁹ The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.²⁰ For the <u>creation was subjected to frustration</u>, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope²¹ that the creation itself will be liberated from its <u>bondage to decay</u> and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.²² We know that <u>the whole creation has been</u> groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present <u>time</u>.

Good "groaning"

²³ Not only so, but <u>we ourselves</u>, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, <u>groan inwardly</u> as we <u>wait eagerly</u> for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has?

²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not <u>vet</u> have, we wait for it patiently.

Discouragement v. Hope, and Future Glory (vv 26-30)

Romans 8:26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the