

## **1. No Condemnation in our Eternal Destiny**

Romans 8:1

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

From this verse, we know that the condition for no condemnation is found in our standing in Christ Jesus. What condemnation means:

Condemnation is:

- to express strong disapproval of; censure
- to pronounce judicial sentence on
- to demonstrate the guilt of
- to judge or pronounce unfit for use
- to compel or force into a particular state or activity

Rev 20:10-15

**10** And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

**11** Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. **12** And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. **13** The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. **14** Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. **15** If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Death is a condition. It is also a principality. Death & Hades will be cast into the lake of fire. As we think of the lake of fire, there is an urgency to share the gospel to our loved ones.

The believer in Christ is forever justified. The believer is one who believes and acknowledges God. We are saved from the penalty of our sins.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The only way to be sure of eternal destiny is to acknowledge God and invite him into our lives. We live 50, 60 or 70 and after that we die. It is appointed unto man once to die and after that the judgment. Don't leave eternal destiny in question.

1 Cor 1:30

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God--that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

When we are in Christ, three things happen:

- 1) He is first our righteousness. We are justified and saved from the penalty of sin.
- 2) We are sanctified and destined for holiness. We are saved from the power of sin.
- 3) We will be glorified, we will have redemption. God is giving us a new resurrected body. We will be saved from the presence of sin.

No condemnation for the believer in Christ means:

- God's justification of us
- God's gift of grace to us
- God's gift of righteousness
- God's gift of eternal life

This position cannot be reversed. No angel, no man, no principality, no height nor depth nor death could separate us. This is the security of our eternal destiny.

Romans 8:32-35

**32** He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? **33** Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. **34** Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. **35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

2 Classes of people enter eternity:

- 1) Those who are in Adam – unbelievers
- 2) Those who are in Christ – believers

## **2. No Condemnation in our Present Living**

Romans 8:1 (NKJV)

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Is this so for every believer? Probably not. It is conditional upon our walking after the Spirit and not following the prompting, guidance and dictates of the flesh. Those who live and walk according to the flesh will reap condemnation. One of the obvious ways of living independently from God is prayerlessness. Our prayer to God shows our dependency on God. Basically, it is about obedience; flee fornication & pornography.

Next, those who live in the flesh do not live under the authority of scriptures or the prompting and guidance of the Holy Spirit. They follow the ways of the world and rely on the opinions of Man as well as yielding to the lies and deceptions of the evil one. They are vulnerable to the devil accusing them. The devil cannot harm us unless ground is given.

Revelation 12:10

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.

The devil accused us before God. When was this? It was before Christ's death and resurrection. Satan had access to God in the Old Testament. We see this in the case of Job (Job 1:6-12) and Joshua the High Priest. (Zech 3:1,4). He also had access before Christ's death as seen in the case of Peter. (Luke 22:31)

However, he has now been cast out.

John 12:31

Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out.

After Christ's resurrection, the place defiled has been purified by the Blood. How does he accuse us now? He does so directly.

Condemnation is now directed at our conscience. Our conscience can be evil, bad guilty, shipwrecked, condemned or seared. Otherwise, it can be good, sensitive, perfect or cleansed by the Blood of Christ.

Words of condemnation from the evil one can take the following forms:

- You are hopeless
- You have sinned
- Call yourself a Christian?
- You cannot do anything good!
- You are not good enough!
- You are a hypocrite!
- Comparing husbands, wives, children
- How can you forgive yourself after what you have done?
- Should have brought him to see doctor earlier – now child has brain damage, etc.

Continual guilt and condemnation leads to:

- discouragement (fear consequence, shame)
- doubts
- despondency (isolation, rejection)
- depression (feeling worthless, low self-esteem)
- death

1 John 3:20

For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart and knows all things. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

We need to be God-conscious and stand upon the Word of God and declare ourselves the righteousness of God.

**No Condemnation in our present living – this will be the experience of those who walk-live according to the Spirit.**

Few points:

**1) Those who live according to the Spirit know that we have the gift of righteousness in Christ Jesus.**

See Rom 5:17. Righteousness cannot be worked for. It's unmerited. Rom 10:10 says that with the heart man believes to righteousness and with the mouth confession is made to salvation.

**2) Those who live according to the Spirit know that we have right standing with God.**

This gives us boldness and confidence to always come into the Presence of God. Heb 4:16

Heb 10:19-22

**19** Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, **20** by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, **21** and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **22** let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

Boldness means confidence without shame. The tabernacle of Moses is now obsolete; we come to the tabernacle of David. When the ark came into Jerusalem, David erected a tent over it but it didn't cover the full ark. The ark could be seen by all. We could enter the Holy of Holies by the Blood of the Lamb. The veil that separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place has been torn down. The High Priest is Jesus Himself. V22 says to be assured. Our hearts are sprinkled. We must stand on the Word. There is no condemnation. We can go to God 24.365.

10 mins before church, we might have quarrelled with someone. The devil will then accuse you, saying you are not worthy. We agree so but tell him that only Jesus is worthy.

Do we have this position to stand upon forever? No, it's during this window of grace where there is no condemnation.

Romans 1:17

For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

**3) Those who live according to the Spirit know that they can resist the evil one.**

James 4:6,7

**6** But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." **7** Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

In Christ, the principalities and powers are placed under the feet of the body of Christ. We can resist the devil (1 Pet 5:8). We can overcome the evil one by the Blood via the divine exchange. However we must speak forth the word of testimony.

**3 Sources of Thought**

Know that there are three sources of all thoughts, ideas, suggestion and dreams. They are from ourselves, the evil ones or the Holy Spirit. For the negative thoughts, we are to take them captive (2 Cor 10:5). We deal with the negative and declare the positive (Roman 5:17).

#### **4) Those who live according to the Spirit do not seek their own righteousness.**

Phil 3:9

and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ--the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.

The devil wants us to perform. The law of sin and death will always hold us down the way gravity does. The law of the mind and will is inferior to the law of sin and death. We overcome the law of sin and death by the law of Spirit and life. We overcome it by the law of aerodynamics.

Do not seek your own righteousness. The evil one always attacks us with the law, i.e. When we fail to do what we must do, he condemns us and gives us guilt. We need to discover the truth and not live by the letter. The letter kills but the Spirit gives life. (2 Cor 3:6)

#### **5) Those who live according to the Spirit know that our right standing with God does not exempt us from the laws in life to relate well with people and live right.**

##### **Galatians 6:7-8**

7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

This means we still need to:

- Pursue right relationships
- Be at peace with all
- Close the loop
- Apologize when wrong
- Improve on failings

Eph 4:26,27

26 "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold.

Acts 24:16

16 So I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man.

Work on anger and unforgiveness and towards a clear conscience.

##### **Conclusion**

John 8:1-11

Woman caught in adultery

Let him who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.

Neither do I condemn you.

The picture of God is the picture of the father of the prodigal son. With God, there is always grace and mercy. Today, don't live under the fiery darts of the devil. The devil will remind you of failings. Rather, let's settle those accusations, bringing them under the Blood, living in freedom and work to be a blessing to others.

End

## Questions for discussion

1a) Are you living under the shadow of the past and feeling condemned?

1b) If so, what are some Biblical truths and promises that you can meditate upon and hold fast to for freedom? Otherwise, if the above doesn't apply to you, what are some verses which you know are note-worthy for those who live under guilt and condemnation?

1c) How should we deal with the devil's accusations? What can we do?

2) What are some things about Roman 8:1 that you could pick up? What does it mean to live according to the Spirit

3) On what basis can we always approach the throne of grace?

4) Those who live according to the Spirit know that our right standing with God does not exempt them from the laws in life to relate well with people and live right. Are there some relationships that need to be made right? Are there some areas we need to work on?

5) Is there any success story which you would like to share re coming out free from condemnation?

6) Share any other thing which you might have gleaned from the message.

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No condemnation, no comparison, no competition but only encouragement...