by Ann Windsor

Part 3 - Romans 8:3&4

Previously:

Romans 8 is the surpassing chapter, the apex of the book of Romans for the believer. It sets forth 'The Glorious Completeness of Them That Are In Christ Jesus".

We found Romans 8:1 does not include the words, 'who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit'. It states as a fact: "There is now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus."

Christ made sin for us, <u>legally AND spiritually set free</u> from condemnation, before the Court of Heaven, all those who receive Him.

You are no longer 'condemned' to stay a sinner, be bound by habits or addictions, stay depressed or suicidal, or have chronic sickness and die early.

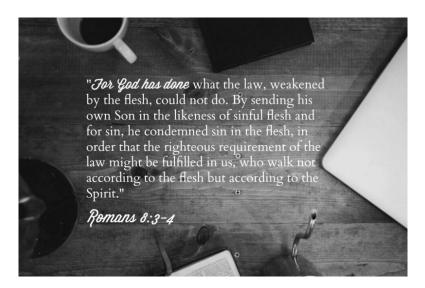
Two laws operate spiritually upon this world and those in it: The law of sin and death loosed by Adam. The Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus, loosed with the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Romans 8:2, our key verse for this study says:

".....the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death."

In Romans 8:3&4 Paul says that Christ proved the Law could be fulfilled by a man living in a human body. He then died and rose to ENABLE you to live by His Spirit IN you as He lived by the Spirit IN Him. To 'fulfill the Law', meant Jesus lived a life without sin or sickness. His Spirit IN you enables you also to live a life above sin and sickness. That is the purpose of His coming.

We are studying to educate the 'spiritual mind' about the 'Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus' Romans 8:3&4:



Since I have been using David Brown's commentary on Romans as a springboard for these studies, here is a little background on him:

David Brown (Free Church of Scotland)

David Brown (17 August 1803 in <u>Aberdeen</u> – 3 July 1897 in Aberdeen) was a <u>Free Church of</u> <u>Scotland</u> minister at St. James, Glasgow, and professor of theology at <u>Free Church College</u> of the <u>University of Aberdeen</u>. He was co-author of the <u>Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Commentary</u> (1871) with Robert Jamieson, St. Paul's, <u>Glasgow</u> and the Rev. A. R. Fausset, St. Cuthbert's, York, England. He was a director of the <u>National Bible Society of Scotland</u>, and the <u>Evangelical Alliance</u>, and the Alliance of the Reformed Churches.

Some people back at that time were getting a glimpse of the New Creation Realities - I am picking up his views that are compatible to what has been revealed in our day.

Brown on Romans 8:3&4:

"It is clearly the Law's inability to free us (speaking of Moses' Law) from the dominion of sin that the apostle has in view. The Law could irritate our Sinful nature into more virulent action (more sinfulness), but The Law could not give me the nature to live it.

The Law, had to address itself to us through a corrupt (sinful) nature that was too strong to be influenced by mere commands and threatenings. This showed how weak the Law was in eliminating the sin nature.

God took the method now to be described(Vs. 3) for attaining that end (enabling us to live a life of righteousness): He sent His Own Son or 'having sent' His Own Son..

His (God's) Son not only has <mark>the very nature</mark> of God, even as a son of his father, but the Son is <mark>essentially OF</mark> the Father.

This peculiar relationship (of the Son to Father/Father to Son) is brought forward here to:

- 1) <u>enhance the Greatness of the relief provided,</u>
- 2) define the nature of the relief provided,
- 3) which came from *beyond* the precincts (realm) of sinful humanity,
- 4) yea, immediately from the Godhead itself.

God having sent His Own Son made in the likeness of our flesh, (not the nature of angels, but he took on himself the seed of Abraham/humanity, Hebrews 2:16) and 'for sin' or:

'on the BUSINESS of sin'.

The design (purpose of God) was not to just ATONE for sin

but

in virtue of that Atonement,

TO DESTROY Sin's DOMINION AND EXTIRPATE (root out, destroy completely), Sin's (nature) altogether from believers.

God 'condemned sin in the flesh' - condemned it to lose its power over men.

In this glorious sense our Lord says of His approaching death,

"Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the prince of this world (Satan) be cast out", (John 12:31) and again, "When He (the Spirit) shall come, He shall convince the world of....judgment, because the prince of this world is judged", (John 16:11)

The prince of this world is:

condemned to let go his hold of men. Men, who, through the Cross, are emancipated into the liberty AND power to be holy. Human nature thus henceforth set free from the grasp of Sin.

Now the righteousness of The Law, the 'righteous demand or requirement' of the Law, can be fulfilled in us who walk according to the Spirit.

This 'righteous demand' or 'requirement' is not the precise word so often used in this Epistle that means, 'the righteousness which justifies' those who believe on Christ for salvation.

The words here in Romans 8:4, 'righteousness of the Law", is another form of the same Greek word, but is here intended to express not the 'gift of righteousness', but:

the ENACTMENT of the Law, or the PRACTICAL OBEDIENCE which the Law calls for.

God sent His Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin in the flesh, that this obedience to the Law might be fulfilled or realized in us, who <u>WALK</u> (the bent of one's life) not after or according to the dictates of the flesh, but after the spirit.

End of David Brown comments.

Here I would like to read some other versions of Romans 8:3&4:

Amplified Classic, Vs. 3 only:

For God has done what the Law could not do, [its power] being weakened by the flesh the entire nature of man without the Holy Spirit]. Sending His own Son in the guise of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, [God] condemned sin in the flesh subdued, overcame, deprived it of its power over all who accept that sacrifice.

Complete Jewish Bible: Verse 3a

For what the *Torah* could not do by itself, because it lacked the power to make the old nature cooperate, God did by sending his own Son as a human being.

Cotton Patch Version of Paul's Epistles - Clarence Jordan

For when it became clear that legalism was a failure, due to its weakness in dealing with humanity, God sent his own Son, in an exact replica of a man of sin and for sin, and dealt effectively with human sin. He did this in order that the just aims of the commandments might be realized in us who live:

- **<u>not</u>** on the level of man but
- on the level of the Spirit.

The Message (MSG)

God went for the jugular when he sent his own Son. He didn't deal with the problem as something remote and unimportant. In his Son, Jesus, he personally took on the human condition, entered the disordered mess of struggling humanity in order to set it right once and for all. The Law code, weakened as it always was by fractured human nature, could never have done that. The Law always ended up being used as a Band-Aid on sin instead of a deep healing of it. And now what the Law code asked for but we couldn't deliver is accomplished as we, instead of redoubling our own efforts, simply embrace what the Spirit is doing in us. (HALLELUJAH!)

God 'went for the jugular' when He sent His Son.

John the Baptist said: 'now is the axe laid at the root of the tree', Matthew 3:10.

In applying the 'axe' (the Cross/the Blood) at the root of the nature of Sin;

in going for the jugular -

God brought the 'deep' healing that your human nature needed to be set free from the law of sin and death.

Think about these facts with me:

Adam loosed the Sinful nature - the nature of Satan into this world.

That nature is 'spiritual death'.

Spiritual death is the nature of Satan.

Spiritual death operated(s) just like a law the government sets up.

That 'law' of sin and death makes men do and experience things not in God's original intention in Creation.

In 'going for the jugular', God went first for the Sin nature.

David Brown: "the design or intention of God in the Cross was not atonement but destruction of Sin's dominion and the extirpation (rooting out and complete destruction) of Sin altogether from believers. It was condemned to lose its power over men."

At the Cross, God dealt with your Sin nature as well as your individual sins themselves.

God didn't deal with the problem of our sin nature remotely - no, He came in the Person of Jesus Christ. He ENTERED the disordered mess of our struggle against or with the law of sin and death in order to break its hold/condemn its hold on mankind in order to set them free, (emancipate them) into the liberty and power of a sons of God, with the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus, enabling them to fulfill the vision of the righteous life that the Law of Moses set forth.

Think this through: if God dealt with the nature that produces the law of sin and death, He also dealt with the effects of it.

God DID the most important <mark>Divine Healing</mark> in you when He <u>healed you</u> spiritually.....through the <mark>New Birth</mark>.

Because your spiritual nature has been healed your physical body can be healed.

WHY physical DIVINE HEALING is included in Redemption: because sickness was a part of Satan's nature.

God in sending His Son <mark>went after the sinful nature</mark> and also <mark>the fruit it bears</mark>, <u>sickness</u> being one of them.

If you are born again, you are free from:

- Satan
- his nature
- his law of sin and death
- the power of sin to control you
- the power that produces sickness and disease in you

<u>YOU have a NEW NATURE.</u>

You are now:

- in the Kingdom of God's dear Son
- living under the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus
- set free to follow the Spirit
- set free to obey God
- free to live a life of righteousness, peace and joy
- free to be healed and live a life of wellness

Again, why?

Because <u>God went for the 'jugular' and 'axed' the nature that caused all the</u> <u>stealing, killing and destroying in your life!</u>

<u>He did this through Jesus' death on the Cross.</u>

THEN God, through the Resurrection of Jesus, made available for those who believe on him, a New Nature. His Own Nature. Eternal Life. Zoe.

Being born again, you have <mark>freely received</mark> this Life. The Life that healed you spiritually and will also heal you physically.

Colossians 1:18-20 The Message

"He (Christ) was supreme in the beginning and—leading the resurrection parade—he is supreme in the end. From beginning to end he's there, towering far above everything, everyone. So spacious is he, so roomy, that everything of God finds its proper place in him without crowding. Not only that, but all the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe—people and things, animals and atoms get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of his death, his blood that poured down from the cross."

If you asked me, "What are God's intentions in my life?"

This would be my answer:

".... to properly fix and fit together in vibrant harmonies all the broken and dislocated pieces of your life. He will do this all because of Jesus' Death, His Blood that poured down from the cross.

That sounds like 'Divine Healing' to me!

Now that you are in Christ, now that Christ is in you, now with a new nature, you are not under the control/mastery/spiritual law that produces sickness and disease.

Now in Christ, now with a new nature, you are under the control/mastery/spiritual Law that produces healing and wellness.

Submit yourself to the new law.

Resist the old law and it won't come within a 100 feet of you!

John G. Lake: "The devil won't come within a 100 feet of a truly Spirit-filled believer!"

As proof you are no longer under the law of sin and death, the Father has put His Spirit in you.

<u>Confession:</u> "As proof I am no longer under the law of sin and death, the Father <u>has put His Spirit in me."</u> Since you are alive in and with the Spirit, live and walk in and with the Spirit. This is being Spirit-filled. A continuous filling.

"I will put within you a well of water springing up unto everlasting life (aionios Zoe)", John 4:14.

The righteous requirement of The Law of Moses is wellness...spirit, soul and body. Now you can achieve it!

Oh, let's praise Him!

Pause and think about these things for awhile.