

## The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God

What is the fundamental distinction between Christians and non-Christians?

“However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.”

(Romans 8:9)

### Romans 8:1-39

*No Condemnation: The Assurance of the Christian*

<sup>1</sup> Therefore now there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life has in Christ Jesus set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup> For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God *did*: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and *as an offering* for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous ordinance of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

<sup>5</sup> For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, <sup>7</sup> because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not able *to do so*, <sup>8</sup> and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. <sup>10</sup> If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

(Romans 8:1-11)

## The Life-Giving Spirit

### 1. Our Essential Condition

- we are no longer controlled by the merely human, this-worldly values and principles but by the Spirit
- we are indwelt by the Spirit of God – the distinguishing mark of belonging to Christ

<sup>16</sup> I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; <sup>17</sup> *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

(John 14:16-17)

How do you know if the Spirit of God dwells in you?

*Your present trust in Jesus and His all-sufficient death and resurrection for you*

## The Life-Giving Spirit

### 2. Our Present Condition

- the human condition is fallen and mortal – we are subject to death because of sin
- the Spirit gives life on account of the justifying activity of God in the death and resurrection of Christ

## The Life-Giving Spirit

### 3. Our Future Condition

- our bodily resurrection is secured in the resurrection of Jesus and the gift of the Spirit
- the Spirit's indwelling presence cannot but result in resurrection life