

## No Condemnation

April 14, 2024 Ray Flores

What Is Sin? In the Bible, the word sin (whether it is in the Hebrew or Greek) actually means “to miss the mark”. The target is God’s word or commands, and when we miss this target we have committed sin. God has placed a moral code in every man’s heart. God, our Creator, gave the standard of right and wrong. We are created in His image, therefore it’s in our DNA.

Romans 7:21-25 NIV <sup>21</sup> So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God’s law; <sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. <sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God’s law, but in my sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.

2 Corinthians 10:5 NIV We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Romans 8:1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus

### 1) NO CONDEMNATION

If you are not in Jesus you are condemned. You are either in or out; there is no middle.

Romans 12:2 NIV And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

- Paul’s therefore is important. It draws the conclusion rightfully that if we are one with Jesus and He is our head, we can’t be condemned. He is seated at the right hand of the father interceding for us, we are joined to Him, we have “no condemnation.”
- In Christ: This phrase affirms that there is a spiritual connection between Christ and believers. Christ is in believers by His Spirit, and believers are in Jesus Christ by faith.

1 Corinthians 6:19 NIV Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own.

- Christians need to get a hold of this. When we accept Christ we are not “less condemned”; we have no condemnation.
- What If you are *not* in Jesus Christ? *There is condemnation for you.*

“It is no pleasant task to us to have to speak of this matter; but who are we that we should ask for pleasant tasks? What God hath witnessed in Scripture is the sum and substance of what the Lord’s servants are to testify to the people. If you are not in Christ Jesus, and are walking after the flesh, you have not escaped from condemnation.” -Charles Spurgeon

John 14:6 NIV Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

- While it is true that those who are in Christ should not and do not consistently walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit, this is not a condition for their status of “no condemnation”. Our position in Jesus Christ is the reason for our standing of no condemnation.

Romans 8:2-4 NIV <sup>2</sup> because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup> For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

## 2) LIFE IN THE SPIRIT AND LIFE IN THE FLESH

We are free from the law of death; death therefore no longer has any lasting power against the believer. What is death? the Bible presents death as separation: physical death is the separation of the soul from the body, and spiritual death is the separation of the soul from God.

John 3:16 NASB1995 For God so loved the world, that He gave His <sup>1</sup>only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

- God gave the Law to reveal His standard of absolute righteousness to convict us of our true guilt before Him, so that we would see our need for the gospel. The law can do many things. It can guide us, teach us, and tell us about God's character. The law can give us the standard, but it can't give us salvation, because we fall short of God's standard. That's why the law is "weak in the flesh". Therefore our need for a Savior.

Romans 8:5-8 <sup>5</sup> Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. <sup>6</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

- (Study Bible notes) Paul divides people into two categories: those who are dominated by their sinful nature, and those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit. All of us would be in the first category if Jesus hadn't offered us a way out. Once we have said yes to Jesus, we want to continue following Him, because His way brings life and peace. Daily we must consciously choose to center our lives on God. Use the Bible to discover God's guidelines, and then follow them. In every perplexing situation ask yourself what would Jesus want me to do? When the Holy Spirit points out what is right, do it eagerly.

## 3) OUR VICTORY IN CHRIST

Romans 8:26-39 <sup>26</sup> In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words; <sup>27</sup> and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to *the will of God*. <sup>28</sup> And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; <sup>30</sup> and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified. <sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *is* against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; <sup>34</sup> who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup> Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup> Just as it is written, "FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG; WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED." <sup>37</sup> But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord....AMEN!