

## Walking According to the Spirit (Romans 8:1-17)

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Water of Life Bible Class

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### Introduction

**8:1** There is therefore now no ~~condemnation~~ servitude [to sin] to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

Why do many translations wrongly omit the underlined words?

Proof that the underlined words are part of Paul's argument in this context

What does *katakrima* [wrongly rendered as *condemnation*] mean?

*According to the flesh* does not mean the same thing as *in the flesh*

**8:2** For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

Why is it important that Paul said *me*?

**8:3** For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,  
*Likeness of sinful flesh, not in sinful flesh*

**8:4** that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

**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, the things of the Spirit.

Understanding setting the mind

**8:6** For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

**8:7** Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

**8:8** So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Meaning of in the flesh.

**8:9** But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

**8:10** And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. **11** But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

The meaning of giving life to a dead body, though the body remains dead

**8:12** Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.  
What kind of death is in focus?

**8:13** For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

**8:14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.  
Are all children of God sons/daughters of God?

**8:15** For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

Literally, Abba means the father (*Ab* = father; the last syllable means *the*).  
Aramaic puts *the* at the back of a word; Hebrew and Arabic put *the* at the front).

Why is *the* added? Both Hebrew and Aramaic regularly add the when addressing someone. If you addressed a king, you would say, "The king, it is an honor to meet you."  
Contrary to what many preachers that don't know Aramaic say, this is not "~~Daddy~~."

What does adoption mean? Literally, it means *placing [someone] as a son*. In ancient Rome, a father might adopt his own biological child—rendering that child as a son. Clearly, adoption did not mean what it means in our day.

**8:16** The Spirit Himself testifies along with our spirit that we are children of God,

Most wrongly imagine that this says that the Holy Spirit testifies to our human spirit. The same exact grammar appears in Romans 9:1, but no one thinks that Paul testifies to his conscience there. Instead, the Holy Spirit testifies [to God] and our human spirit testifies to God that we are His children.

**8:17** and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

All believers are children of God. All believers have the general inheritance.  
Those believers that suffer with Christ are God's sons and have a joint inheritance with the Firstborn ruler, Jesus Christ

CONCLUSION