

ROMANS 8.

First person singular devotional.

If I am spiritually identified with, and incorporated in Christ Jesus, who is my Lord by faith, God the Father will never reject me.

Because of my loving faith in Christ, the Spiritlife of the ascended Christ is alive in me.

Now I am no longer under the grip of my sin prone nature or the power, which the fear of death had over me.

My very weak and helpless nature made the external Mosayic law powerless.

That old external law with it's commands has been replaced by an internal spiritual law.

This was accomplished when God the Father sent his most precious Son - His perfect likeness. Jesus. who took on our sinful nature. and in that weak human nature Jesus offered to sacrifice himself, and so put to death the sin tendency in all human nature. Now God's commandments can be willingly fulfilled and obeyed; because I am able to live by the Spiritlife of Christ who lives in me. who makes me willingly desire to please the Father.

It all comes down to this.

I know that I can either live to satisfy the desires of my human nature.

Or.

I can commit myself to obey the promptings of the Spirit of Christ telling me how to live.

It's one or the other.

If I keep yielding to my weak human nature. I will end up spiritually dead.

But if I keep my heart and mind on the Spirit in me. I will be spiritually alive to God. I will be fulfilled. And experience genuine, deep peace.

That's what I really want.

I know that my weak nature is opposed to God.

It refuses to be subject to God.

It can't be obedient to him.

And it will never be pleasing to Him.

But since the Spirit of God lives in me. Then I am able to follow God's Spirit.

And in fact. I shouldn't even be called a Christian if I don't have the Spirit of Christ.

Because Christ really lives in me;

My old human nature is dead to sin. Sin has been crucified with Christ.

But his Spirit makes me pleasing to God our Father.

Furthermore.

The same spirit that raised Jesus from death. Will one day bring life to my dead body.

Because his spirit is in me...

Alleluia.!

Let me summarize these first eleven verses. And capture their main meaning.

I am. in. Christ.

This is the radical change that has taken place in my life.

I'm no longer living for myself.

My identity is in Christ.

I have been incorporated into him.
He has entered my life spiritually.
He has come into my heart.
I am. in him. He is. In me.
I no longer live.
It is Christ who lives in me.
I live by faith in Christ. And he is Lord. And God. The son of god the Father.

Now these are the five results of my identity and incorporation in Christ.

One.

I am no longer subject to inevitable condemnation.

God the Father now. Will never reject me.

Two.

I have been set free from the domination of sin and the fear of death.

Three.

Now I am able to fulfill God's requirements.

Four.

I am now living by the spirit. Who gives me true eternal life. And peace.

Five.

The Father's spirit in me will one day raise my mortal body to life again.

As he raised Christ Jesus from death.

Romans 8. verses 12 through 17.

There is no necessity or compulsion for me to live by my sinful nature. I will die spiritually if I do.

Instead. with the help of the spirit of Christ in me, I am able to control such behavior; And live a rich spiritual life.

I am a child of God my Father. And I am under his spirit's control.

I no longer have a spirit that makes me a slave to sin.

I have a new Spirit in me.

I have God's own spirit; because I am his adopted child.

That's why I can speak to him as my Abba Father. My dear, loving Father.

His spirit has filled my spirit with the assurance that I really am his child.

And this also means that I have an inheritance of glory in heaven

which I share with his Son; Jesus.

Though now I share in his sufferings as well.

Romans 8. verses 18 through 25.

But any suffering I have now; doesn't compare with the glory that Christ will show me later.

In fact, all creation, is waiting to see the Father's children.

It was made to undergo a time of empty waiting; until the time when it joins God's children.

And is free from death and decay.

Right now, all creation is groaning, like in childbirth.

And I too am sighing, and longing for that glory to come;

because the Holy Spirit in me; is himself a foretaste of heaven.

I want this body of mine to be set free from sin and sufferings.

I wait; with trust and hope; when I will be complete and fulfilled as my Father's adopted son.

This includes having a new body.

When I was first saved by Christ; This hope was planted in my heart.

Hope looks forward to what it doesn't yet possess; otherwise it wouldn't be hope.

I do have hope.

And I'm looking ahead; patiently and trustingly.

Romans 8. verses 26 through 30.

Just as the Spirit in me gives me a future taste of heaven;;

This same spirit, helps me now in my weakness and ignorance.

For instance; I don't know what is the best way to pray; or.

What to pray for.

But if I am still and listen quietly;

I can hear the Spirit of Jesus praying inside me.

Murmuring; whispering; pleading for me; without words; before the Father.

My loving Father searches deeply into my heart.

He knows my deepest needs and longings.

He knows exactly what the Spirit of Christ is saying to him; for the three are one.

And the Spirit, and Christ Jesus; intercede with the Father; as one.

And!

This is why.

All things are working together in my life.

Working together for my ultimate good.

Why?

Because the Father knows I love him.

And because he has purposely; called me to be his child.

Here is how it happened.

My Father conceived and envisioned me in his heart.

He intended me to become like his son. For Christ was intended to be the firstborn son of the Father with many brothers and sisters.

Then.

Having conceived me; he called me by his grace. And I responded in faith.

Then he saved me through faith in Christ.

And now my Father is preparing me to share in the glory of Christ.

Romans 8:31-34

Romans 8, verses 31 through 34.

When I look at all these things that have been revealed and given to me; I can only pray: Father God, if you love me this much, what. or who; can ever interfere with your plans for me?

You were willing to offer your own Son for me. He was turned over to men who put him to a cruel death.

Father God. If you made such a sacrifice; then you must love me very much.

No one can find fault with me; if you love me like this.

No one can condemn me ; if you yourself have accepted me.

If your own son; Christ Jesus; died and was raised from the dead.

If he sits in glory with you Father.
And intercedes for me, then; what have I to fear?

Romans 8, verses 31 through 39.

Can anyone or anything ever make Christ stop loving me?
No matter what trials I have to go through; no matter what heartache or heartbreak I suffer.
No mistreatment or rejection; no destitution or humiliating exposure.
Not even the threat of death.

I know that the scriptures say that: "for the sake of God, there are people killed every day in this world. And that we are like sheep going to be slaughtered.

Yet; in all these things; I only become stronger; because I experience his love for me.

I am confident that death or a difficult life;
that wicked angels or spirits.

That nothing happening to me right now; or what's going to happen to me.
the ruling powers below or above me; not any person or creature;

Nothing will ever make my Father God stop loving me;

Because I am in Christ Jesus my Lord.