

Romans Chapter 8  
Week 8, v. 12-13

Romans 8:12-13 So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh – for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

What does it mean to have an obligation?

Obligation or debtors in KJV <opheiletes> an ower, a person indebted; a delinquent; morally, a transgressor (against God)

Obligation: 1) duty – something that must be done because of legal or moral duty; 2) gratitude owed – something that somebody owes in return for something given;

Rom 6:2-15

Ps 116:16 O LORD, surely I am Thy servant, I am Thy servant, the son of Thy handmaid, Thou hast loosed my bonds.

1 Cor 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

1 Pet 4:2 so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.

"Once we were sold under sin (Ro 7:14); but now that we have been set free from that hard master and become servants to Righteousness (Ro 6:22), we owe nothing to the flesh, we disown its unrighteous claims and are deaf to its imperious demands." Glorious sentiment! Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Commentary

Here is the 'before': Rom 7:14 For we know that the Law is spiritual; but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin.

Here is the 'after': Rom 6:22 But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.

What or who are you living for? How do you know – what's the proof?

What does it mean to 'be putting to death the deeds of the body' in verse 13?

If I *put* something somewhere I move it into a particular place or position. *To put* is a verb – it requires action. '*Putting*' is continuous action.

The KJV uses the words '*mortify the deeds of the body*'. Mortify comes from the word <thanatoo> meaning to kill: become dead, (cause to be) put to death. This word is used twice in Romans 8:13. The repetition of the word tells us it is important to pay close attention to this concept.

*If* we are living by the Spirit we are actively putting to death the deeds of the body. This is more than 'I once said a prayer and now I have the insurance of salvation'. It is a continuous life change, a continuous challenge. Dale, in his sermon Sunday said, "there is no reason to believe that those who are professing faith are possessing faith if the message is rejected". What does putting to death the deeds of the body look like in your life? How do you actively put to death the practice of sin?

Eph 4:21-24 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, that, in reference to your former manner of life, ***you lay aside the old self***, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that ***you be renewed in the spirit of your mind***, and ***put on the new self***, which in [the likeness of] God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

- you lay aside the old self – you cast it off, put it away (not putting it away in a secluded spot so that you might revisit it but throwing it in the deepest depths of the sea with no intention of recovery)
- you be renewed in the spirit of your mind – you renovate, reform (you repair, refresh, restore in your intellect, thought, feeling and understanding) How?

- you put on the new self – you clothe yourself (literally sink into) with a new countenance. This is the expression of righteousness and holiness and truth found in Christ.

If we are putting sin to death, what don't we do?

Job 4:8 "According to what I have seen, those who plow iniquity and those who sow trouble harvest it.

We don't cultivate sin, we don't encourage sin. We don't create an atmosphere where sin is welcome in our lives.

### Application Questions

Try to find a quiet piece of time – whatever that may look like in your life – to contemplate these questions and any others that may have come to mind through studying verses 12 thru 14.

Read Ps 116:16 and 1 Cor 6:19-20. According to these scriptures, what has God done for you? What are you expected to do for Him?

What does it mean to be putting to death the deeds of the body? What is important to recognize about the verb 'putting'? How do you see the power of the Holy Spirit helping you to do this in your life?

If you are God's child, what will happen according to Ephesians 4:21-24?

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- 2)
- 3)