

Romans Chapter 8
Week 1, begin v.1

Read Romans 7:24. What is the question Paul is asking? Where do we find the answer?

In Romans 7:24 Paul asks the question “Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?” Romans 7:25 gives us the answer: Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

Romans Chapter 8 goes on to explain the answer.

Ro 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Thanks be to God for this incredible gift – ‘complete, everlasting deliverance from all evil, and all propensity or liability to evil, **through Jesus Christ our Lord**; who, though he was rich, for our sakes became poor, that we through his poverty might be rich, being filled for ever with the fullness of God’. Family Bible Notes

2 Cor 9:15 Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! (v.14 ...because of the surpassing grace of God in you)

1 Pet 1:8 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, **you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,**

What did Christ deliver us from? What does it mean when something has power over you? When you were young, who or what caused you to change your behavior because of their power or influence over you?

What does pervasiveness mean? ‘to be present everywhere: spreading widely or present throughout something’ syn.- commonness, frequency (Encarta English dictionary)

Christ has delivered us from the power of sin and someday will deliver us from the presence of sin as well. In the meantime, the pervasiveness of sin in a believer's life is overcome by Christ's victory on the cross.

So because of this indescribable gift – a gift so enormous we cannot begin to understand the fullness of it – there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8 begins with the words 'Therefore there is now'. *Why do we use the word **now** when we speak?*

Now – 1. at the present time – often as opposed to in the past; 2. immediately – at once or at this exact time; 3. given the current situation – under the present circumstance.

Look carefully at the word *now* – meaning *before* this gift was given there *was* condemnation and there is still condemnation for those who *are not* in Christ Jesus.

Where is your heart? Are you living in the condemnation of sin or the freedom in Christ?

*How are you different because of Christ? What did the *before* look like? How does that compare to the *now*?*

Application Questions Romans Chapter 8 – week 1

Read through chapter 8 then consider how God would have you apply His truth as you answer the questions below. Your '*Apply It*' bookmark is a useful tool for personal application – be sure to keep it near-by!

Read Romans 7:24. How does Paul describe our state without Christ? Look up the word 'wretched' in the dictionary. What is the definition? What is your response to being described this way?

Look up 2 Corinthians 9:15. Can you agree with this statement? Take a minute to write down what it means in your life to have received the 'indescribable' gift of Jesus Christ.

Read 1 Peter 1:8. Do others see your joy – at home, in your neighborhood, at work, in ministry, in activities outside your home, etc? If the answer is no, what do you need to do? If it is yes, what does it look like specifically?

Think again what you have been delivered from. How does the knowledge of this truth affect your thinking? Your actions? Your words?

Where is your heart? Are you living in the control of sin or freedom in Christ? Can you explain your testimony of how you have been changed by Christ?

How does your *now* compare to your *before*?