

Flesh or Spirit 2022-03-13

Romans 8:8-11

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him. 10 But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

1977 Star wars.....Holy Spirit not force but 3rd divine person of Trinity .

- 1 God who eternally exists as 3 distinct Persons —Father, Son, Holy Spirit
 - Each fully God and equal in deity/attributes.

Holy Spirit mentioned only 2 times up to Romans 8, but 19 times in Romans 8:1-39
....*pneumatology* = study of Holy Spirit

• Indwelling Holy Spirit empowers Christians to live according to Spirit not flesh. Christians never receive everlasting punishment (condemnation) because of what God has done and is doing on our behalf....have eternal security! Romans 7:25-8:4

- Jesus Christ's perfect righteousness in your place and His presence in your heart secures forever.
 - At salvation, changed from living "according to flesh" to "according to Holy Spirit."

Flesh and Holy Spirit share nothing in common, incompatible, enemies. Romans 8:5-8
Galatians 5:17, John 3:6

- Fleshly mindset/walk: directed by sin nature and focus on world/own agenda.
 - hostile > God; not submit law, unable obey (depraved) or please God.
 - Totally void of spiritual life and ability....they're unsaved.
- Result: die physically and spiritually (eternal separation from God).

Law/principle of sin is not the whole story. another principle/law at work in Christians life.

- impossible to please God in flesh but possible to please God by Holy Spirit.
 - God accomplishes our justification and sanctification through Jesus.
Romans 9-11, John 15:5

Holy Spirit dwells/abides in you, you in him.....changes nature, empowers/enables keep law.

- nature > thoughts/mindset > behavior.
 - Fleshly nature still here but not controlling principle/bent of lives.
- New Spiritual nature/mindset causes attitudes, goals, purposes, desires, what value/treasure different from those in flesh.....affects our behavior.
 - Internally free: Holy Spirit enables ability to love/submit/obey God/law, reject sin, resist tempt, choose live righteous, able please God.
 - When live according to Holy Spirit, actually fulfill requirements of law.

Positionally perfect: behaviors don't always match our position. Romans 7:19, 25, 8:5, 9

- Easier to believe free from sin's guilt than free from sin's power.
 - Lost can only live according flesh. Christian choice: live according flesh/Holy Spirit.
 - in flesh (lost state) different than live according to flesh.

Every human being has sinful nature but Christians have indwelling Holy Spirit.

- Holy Spirit source of divine power for sanctification and spiritual victory in living.
 - He is at work warring against sin and enabling holy living.
- Christian literally has to take effort to resist Holy Spirit and fight against new nature. Mark 8:33, Ephesians 4:30, 1 Thessalonians 5:19, 1 John 3:19-21, John 5:24, Colossians 3:2
 - respond to Holy Spirit in faith and obedience for assurance, peace.

Indwelling Holy Spirit will empower Christians to live according to the Spirit not flesh. 2 Timothy 2:13

- Though struggle with sin, you're free from condemnation because confidence/assurance not in your performance but what God has done (justification) is doing (sanctification).