

No More Excuses

Our Hope – How the Holy Spirit conquers our darkness

October 3 & 4, 2009

Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans chapter 7 verse 25 (862)

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

Romans chapter 8 verse 1 (862)

- Condemnation - to pass judgment on; disapprove of strongly; to declare to be guilty
- There is no condemnation from God, from my own sinfulness, from any other person or source or cause

No Condemnation

- None from God - *God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin (to be our sin!), so that we could be made right with God through Christ.*

2 Corinthians chapter 5 verse 21 (884)

- None from my own sinfulness - *Our actions (love in action) will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God. Even if we feel guilty, God is greater than our feelings, and He knows everything.*

1 John chapter 3 verses 19 & 20 (942)

- None from any other person or source or cause - *Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for His own? No one, for God Himself has given us right standing with Himself. Who then will condemn us? No one, for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and He is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us. Romans chapter 8 verses 33 & 34 (863)*

- “No Condemnation” - the way this is set up in the Greek tells us that there is no condemnation possible! Not for my past, my present or the future! (*so what's left?!?!?*)

What's the difference between condemnation & conviction?

Condemnation

- It's goal is isolation & destruction
- Doesn't come from God & seeks to lead you away from God in guilt, shame & unworthiness.
- Leads towards defeat & hiding & phoniness
- The end result is shame, hiding & destruction

Conviction

- It's goal is repentance & restoration
- Comes from God & seeks to lead you toward God in repentance, humility & longing for His grace
- Leads toward living in gratitude of God's forgiveness, love & grace
- The end result is gratitude & relief

And because you belong to Him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. Romans chapter 8 verse 2 (862)

- “freed” - to be liberated from
- I am no longer a slave to sin! (see Romans 6)

Next Week: Our Future...How the Holy Spirit leads us through our pain - Romans 8:18 - 30