DEAD TO THE FLESH—LIVING IN THE SPIRIT

(ROMANS 8:1-13)

Definition: Living “in the Spirit” does not mean “out of the body,” but means to be controlled by God’s Spirit instead of the old fleshly nature.

1. THE ENTRANCE INTO A LIFE IN THE SPIRIT (8:1)
2. BY BEING IN CHRIST JESUS.

Rom. 8:1 “in Christ Jesus.” The new birth puts us in Him, see II Cor. 5:17. This is the Spirit’s work, John 3:6.

1. BY HAVING CHRIST IN US.

Rom. 8:10 “Christ in you.” Eph. 2:12, once we were without Christ. At conversion we received Him. John 1:12, Col. 2:6.

1. THE BLESSEDNESS OF THE LIFE IN THE SPIRIT (8:2-4)
2. THERE IS FREEDOM FROM SIN AND DEATH.

Rom. 8:2 “made me free from the law of sin and death.” We are free from condemnation for sin (V.1), because Christ bore our condemnation (V.34). We are also free from control by sin (V.2) as He is. Gal.5:16; Luke 4:1, 14.

1. There is fullness of righteousness.

Rom. 8:4 “righteousness … fulfilled in us” Phil. 2:13.

1. THE CONFLICT OF A LIFE IN THE SPIRIT (8:5-8)

The unsaved have one nature – the fleshly. When one is saved, a new spiritual nature is added, and these two natures are in conflict. Gal. 5:17 “against … against”

1. THEY HAVE DIFFERENT INTERESTS IN LIFE.

Rom. 8:5 “things of … flesh … Spirit.” I Cor. 2:9-13, Gal. 5:19-23.

1. THEY HAVE DIFFERENT EFFECTS ON THE LIFE.

Rom. 8:6 “death … life and peace.” Rom. 7:5, I Tim. 5:6.

1. THEY HAVE DIFFERENT ATTITUDES TOWARDS GOD.

Rom. 8:7 “enmity against God.” John 16:13-14 “Spirit … glorify me.”

1. THE POWER FOR A LIFE IN THE SPIRIT (8:9-13)
2. THE SPIRIT IS OUR GUIDE IN LIFE.

Rom. 8:4 “walk … after the Spirit.” V.14 “led by …”

1. THE SPIRIT IS OUR SPHERE OF LIFE.

Rom. 8:9 “ye are … in the Spirit.”

1. THE SPIRIT IS OUR POWER FOR LIFE.

Rom. 8:13 “ye through the Spirit do …”

1. THE VICTORY OF A LIFE IN THE SPIRIT (8:13)

In Rom.7 the inner man battles sin (“I” vs. SIN) and fails.

In Rom. 8 the Holy Spirit takes up the fight (“the Spirit” vs. SIN) and gains the victory for us.

1. IT IS POSSIBLE TO MORTIFY THE DEEDS OF THE BODY.

Rom. 8:13 “mortify (put to death) the deeds…”

1. THIS IS POSSIBLE ONLY THROUGH THE SPIRIT.

Rom. 8:13 “through the Spirit.”

1. THE RESULT IS LIFE.

Rom. 8:13 “he shall live” John 10:10 “more abundantly”