

**Sermon on Romans 8:9-16**  
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Hebrews 2:3, "a great salvation."

V. 7-8, "The sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God."

V. 9. "You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you."

V. 9b, "And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ."

Galatians 3:26 and 4:6 teach the same truth, "You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus." and "Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts." Acts 2:38 teaches the same truth: "Repent . . . everyone of you, in the Name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

V. 10, "But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin"

The body is dead, the body is lifeless, the body is powerless, the body is unable to respond to God's laws and commands due to the principle of sin living in it.

While Christ died to redeem our sinful bodies, nothing yet has been done to our bodies per say to empower or enable them, in and of themselves, to respond positively and favorably to Christ and His commands to us. As Paul says elsewhere about our bodies, "we wait the redemption of our bodies"; and "the outward man is perishing (II Cor. 4:16)". Because sin has entered into our bodies, our bodies in and of themselves are spiritually dead, incapable of obeying Christ's commands.

V. 10, "But if Christ is in you, . . . yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness."

When you become a believer, you are given the gift of Christ's righteousness and this then allows God to put His spirit inside you and He regenerates YOUR spirit, making it alive to the impulses, wishes, desires, leadings of the Holy Spirit.

Remember this: The unsaved person is described as being:

Spiritually dead (Eph. 2:1; John 3:6)

Spiritually blind (II Cor. 4:4; Mt. 13:13)

Spiritually deaf (Mt. 13:13)

Spiritually separated from God (Jn 8:44; Eph. 4:18)

We are also told that Satan has control of the spirit of unbelievers  
(Eph. 2:2 and II Cor. 4:4; I Jn. 4:4).

When God saves a person, the human spirit is regenerated, making it alive to the leadings, promptings, wishes, desires, enablement and power of the Holy Spirit who has now taken control of the human spirit.

QUOTES:

1. "Regeneration is the act of God by which the governing disposition of the soul (spirit) is made holy through the truth as the means." Augustus Strong

2. "Regeneration is the instantaneous, supernatural impartation of spiritual life to the spiritually dead. It is a change in the heart or governing disposition." McCune

3. "There is no satisfactory psychological explanation for the operation of the new birth. Since it is a direct application of God's power upon the immaterial part of man's constitution (heart, spirit, governing disposition), there is no observable way to analyze regeneration except by its effects and manifestations in character and conduct." McCune

II Cor. 4:16, "Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day." This is a very important verse and it sheds insight on what Romans 8:10 is saying to us.

V. 11, "And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his spirit, who lives in you."

Paul is assuring us and encouraging us that we can count on the Spirit to provide life to our human spirits, to energize us, to empower us, to enable our bodies to obey the commands of Jesus. (Charles Hodge says that John Calvin and many others interpret v. 11 to mean this).

V. 12, "Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation-but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it.

V. 13. "For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die."

V. 13b, "but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live."

Several important truths from this verse.

1.) As Christians, this verse is very clear that we do have misdeeds, meaning that we do have sins. Salvation does not mean that God eradicated sin from us. What salvation does mean is that we now have an internal power that is more than sufficient to combat and conquer the sin. But sin is always, unceasingly trying to rear its ugly head in every Christian, attempting to reassert authority over us. It is an unending attack.

2.) Paul calls them "misdeeds of the body" because that is where sin resides. It resides inside our bodies.

3.) We can put them to death. We can now be victorious over sins that at one time dominated us.

8:14, "because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God."

"How do we put the misdeeds of the body to death through the Spirit?"

1. YIELD. By faith, I take Christ at His Word and I YIELD my body, all parts of it, to Him (Rom. 6:11-14). I do the things that He has commanded me to do.

Quote by John MacArthur: "The Apostle Paul says that the Spirit provides us with the energy and power to continually and gradually be killing our sins, a process never completed in this life. The means the Spirit uses to accomplish this process is our faithful obedience to the simple commands of Scripture."

2. Faith IN CHRIST. Romans 1:17, "For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written, 'The righteous will live by faith.'" Stay focused on Christ (Heb. 3:1). Galatians 5:5, "But by faith, we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope."

3. PRAY! Cry out to Christ daily for His enablement, and His Spirit to give regular victory over sin. Abba, Father (Romans 8:15, Gal. 4:6; Mk. 14:32-35).  
Matthew 7:7