



THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS "The Three Spiritual Laws" Romans 8:1-13

No. 289

Stuart Briscoe

Paul frequently used the expression "in Christ Jesus" (vv. 1-2). To be "in Christ Jesus" means to have a vital faith-relationship with the crucified and risen Christ. Great benefits and responsibilities accrue to those who enjoy such a relationship.

I. Benefit #1: No Condemnation. v. 1

- A. Condemnation passed upon all. Romans 5:18
- B. Now no condemnation. Romans 8:1
- C. Because God condemned sin in the flesh. v. 3
 - 1. He did what the Law could not do.
 - 2. He did it in His Son.
 - 3. He sent Him in likeness of sinful flesh.
 - 4. He sent Him for sin (offering).

II. Benefit #2: No Bondage. v. 2

Note: The three spiritual laws.

- A. The law of sin and death.
 - 1. The law of sin at work in my members. 7:23
 - 2. The flesh a slave to the law of sin. 7:25
 - 3. Living according to the flesh leads to sin and death. v. 5
 - 4. The flesh has a mind-set. v. 5
 - 5. This mind-set is death, hostile, incapable. vv. 6-7
 - 6. This life-style cannot please God.
- B. The Law of the Spirit of Life.
 - 1. "In Christ" the law of the Spirit operates. v. 2
 - 2. The Spirit is stronger than the flesh. v. 9
 - 3. The Spirit is evidence of belonging to Christ. v. 9
 - 4. The Spirit of Him who raised Jesus lives in us. vv. 10-11
 - 6. This mind-set produces life and peace. v. 6
- C. The law of fulfilled righteousness.
 - 1. Observation—set free. v. 2
 - 2. Obligation—debtors. v. 13
 - 3. Operation:
 - a. Minding. vv. 5-6
 - b. Walking. v. 4
 - c. Mortifying. v. 13

E.g., The law of aerodynamics in an airplane sets me free from the law of gravity.