

OUTLINE AND WALK THROUGH – RO.8:12-17

PERFECT LOGIC of Sovereign Grace (v.12-13)

- The unregenerate believes he is obligated to satisfy his own flesh. **v.12**
- Our debt (obligation) is to the Spirit, not to the flesh. This exhortation is our responsibility.
- The domain of the flesh is our bodies (**Ro.6:6,12; 7:5**).
- The flesh generates its passions in us desiring to reign (**Ro.6:12**, “do not let sin reign in your mortal body”).
- The second group are those who “live according to the flesh”. These are in Adam, thus, unregenerate.
- If we live out the desires of the flesh we will reap the wages of sin, death. **v.13**
- We cannot “put to death” the flesh but “by the Spirit”.
- The Spirit provides the continual power to gradually kill sin. This process is never completed in this life.
- If we put to death the suggestions of the flesh, we are paying our debt to the Spirit (**Ro.6:11**, “count yourself...”).
- As we walk in the Spirit we are killing (denying) the flesh. The body is where the flesh expresses itself (**Ro.6:6, 13**).

PRECIOUS ADOPTION as Children of God (v.14-15)

- The Spirit objectively leads His children through: **v.14**
 1. ILLUMINATION - Divine clarifying to make Scripture understandable (**Ep.1:17-19**)
 2. SANCTIFICATION - Divine enabling to help us obey Scripture (**Ga.5:16-17, 24**)
- We yield to the Spirit, and He guides us through His Word.
- The Holy Spirit is the sign of adoption (“sons of God”)
- “Fear” - The unregenerate are slaves (in bondage) to: **v.15**
 1. Fear of death (**He.2:14-15**)
 2. Fear of final punishment (**1Jn.4:18**)
- “Adoption” - Means, “being placed as an adult son” at the moment or rebirth.
- This is a Spirit-produced awareness that we belong to God.
- “Abba” - We come to God without fear or hesitation as our beloved Father.
- First the HS says “Abba, Father” to us (**Ga.4:6**), then we say it to God.

POWERFUL PRIVILEGE as Joint-Heirs with Christ (v.16-17)

- The HS confirms the validity of our adoption: **v.16**
 1. By the fruit He provides (**Ga.5:22-23**)
 2. By the power He provides (**Ac.1:8**)
- The Holy Spirit gives evidence (“bears witness”) that we are His, by the prompting, “Abba, Father”.
- We are promised an inheritance (**Ga.3:29; Ep.1:11; 1Pe.1:4**, “heirs” or “inheritance”). **v.17**
 1. We will inherit eternal salvation (**Ti.3:7**)
 2. We will inherit God Himself (**Lm.3:24; Ps.73:25; Re.21:3**)
 3. We will receive glory (**Ro.5:2**)
- As co-heirs with Christ we share in His sufferings (**Jn.15:18-19; 2Co.4:17; 2Tm.3:12**).