And then remember, in the original language of scripture there is no chapter break, “There is therefore now no condemna-
tion for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of
death.” (ROM 8:1-2). Paul discovered that the battle between the
O.S.N. and living the spiritual life is overcome by a new and pow-
nerful principle, the Spirit of life, or zoe life found in the Lord Jesus
Christ. Paul found his answer in realizing that even as a believer he
still would sometimes sin, and that trying to please God by trying to
be good wasn’t getting him anywhere. Paul no longer felt any
obligation to try and be different. He had finally accepted the
fact that he was a sinner, and there was no hope of pleasing God
unless God did the work Himself. He really understood what he
wrote in next verse. “For what the Law could not do, weak as it
was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness
of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the
flesh, in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in
us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the
Spirit.” (ROM 8:3-4). Paul made the great discovery that when he
stopped relying on himself and instead relied on God. When he
decided to live through Him, then the righteous requirement of the
Law was fully met in him.

Why is there no condemnation for those who are in Christ
Jesus? Why has the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus set us
free? Why did God send His own Son down to earth in the likeness
of sinful flesh in order to be a sin offering for our salvation? Verse 4
tells us the reason for the entire grace policy of God, “in order that
the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us.” What is the
righteous requirement of the Law? First, the law demands perfec-
tion. If you want blessing from God, God demands perfection.
Therefore, God had to make us perfect before He could bless us.
The Law promises blessing to those who are righteous. Who are
the righteous? Those who have personally believed in the Lord Je-
sus Christ. Because we have His Perfect Righteousness, His Perfect
Justices is perfectly perfect in blessing us! God can only reveal
Himself in us through HIS RESURRECTION ZOE LIFE!
PLEASE READ
THIS FIRST...

BEFORE we begin, if you are a believer in Jesus Christ, take a moment to name your sins to God the Father. This will allow you to be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit as you read this booklet (Eph. 5:18 & I John 1:9).

IF YOU HAVE never believed in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you have that opportunity right now. Simply tell God the Father that you are believing on His Son Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. If you make that decision, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God! When you die, you will spend eternity with Him forever in heaven! (John 3:16 & Acts 16:31).

We all have a legitimate desire to please the Lord. It is a desire that increases as we increase our intake of doctrine. We have learned that this will happen when we develop our spiritual skills through understanding and applying Bible doctrine. That does not mean we will always make the right decisions. The Apostle Paul gave us a good example in Romans 7, which was written at least 20 years after Paul became a Christian. Paul said that he really wanted to advance spiritually, and please God by reaching spiritual maturity, but there was a problem. These good intentions were held back by the work of the Old Sin Nature (O.S.N.) with its trends toward sin, human good and evil.

“For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of [or belonging to] the realm of flesh [sin nature], sold into bondage to sin.” (Rom 7:14). “For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate” (Rom 7:15). “But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good.” (Rom 7:16).

Bible Doctrine helps us recognize the flaws that we are born with as humans and the control that the O.S.N. has over us. Paul is saying if I keep on doing what I do not want to do, then I realize that the Law is good, and the word of God is good because it reveals my helplessness. That of course was the purpose of the law and the commandments, to reveal our helplessness. If there was no law telling us what is right and wrong, we would not have this clear picture of the difference between right and wrong. Our conscience inside of us is a God-given barometer. Through it the Holy Spirit convicts us of what is right and wrong through the Bible Doctrine for us as believers, because our Old Sin Nature would probably twist it and mess it all up! You see, we are so easily deceived because we are no match against the genius of Satan and his system. The natural mind cannot understand the things of God.

The only way that God is revealed to and through human beings is through His own life and His power! He pours His life into us at salvation and He continues to give us the power to live the spiritual life through that eternal life that dwells within us. You see, we don’t have the ability to reveal God to a lost and dying world! But, God does! He reveals Himself through us because we are no longer alive but Christ lives through us (Gal 2:20). If this is true, (and it is) we have the very resurrection life that Jesus Christ achieved when He conquered death and rose again living in us!

Galatians 2:20 could not make it any plainer. We have been crucified with Christ, nevertheless we live, but it’s not us, it is Christ that lives in us. The life that we now live in the flesh we live by faith in the Son of God and through the life HE GAVE US.

So here is our dilemma. As Paul continues, “Now no longer am I the one doing it, but the sin nature which is indwelling me. For I know that nothing good of intrinsic value dwells in me, that is in my flesh [sin nature], for the desire is present in me but the doing of the good is not or I cannot do it. For the good of intrinsic value that I desire to do, I do not do but I practice the very evil which I do not desire to do. But if I am doing the very thing I do not wish to do [and I am], I am no longer the one doing it, but the sin nature which dwells in me. I find then the principle, that evil is present with me, the one who desires to do the good [virtuous, noble]. For I joyfully concur with the Law of God with reference to my inner man [doctrine in his mentality].” (Rom 7:17-22)

This is a positive believer who now sees that doctrine has provided him with an understanding of the truth that sets us free. Paul continues, “But I see a different Law [principle] in the members of my body [bondage to the O.S.N.], waging war against the law of my mind or trying to put him in bondage, and making me a prisoner to the law of the sin nature which is in the members [cell structure] of my body. I am a miserable [wretched] person! Who will rescue me from the body of this death [the old sin nature]? Thanks be to God or grace belongs to God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then, on the one hand, with my mind I am myself serving the law of God; but on the other hand, with my flesh [old sin nature in control of the soul], I am serving the law of the sin nature.” (Rom 7:23-