

SERMON STUDY SUMMARY

OUR SOVEREIGN GOD Part 2

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September 3 / 4, 2022

ROMANS SERIES: A New Me: Living in the Spirit Despite Doubts and Fears

Dr. Henry Schorr

Review: To live in the Spirit means that:

- (1) You no longer fear condemnation (v.1-2).
- (2) You do not set your mind on the temporary things of life but on the eternal things of God (v.5).
- (3) You live in total dependence on Jesus to live a God-pleasing life (v.9-11).

(4) To live in the Spirit means you are **convinced God will use all things to accomplish His good purpose for those who love God** (v.28-30). God **foreknew** you were going to be saved, and He **predestined** you for a purpose—to be conformed to the image of His Son. He *determined beforehand* that you would be like Jesus. God **called** you to Himself. When you responded to His call, God **justified** you, meaning you are forgiven. He also **glorified** you. He sees you as you will be in heaven – with no more sin and with a new body made for an eternal existence.

God will use everything that happens to you, both good and bad, to accomplish one over-arching purpose, that is to mold you into the image or character of Christ.

Faith means trusting God even when nothing makes sense. Faith trusts that God will use ALL things for your ultimate good and His ultimate glory. Faith chooses to see everything that happens—the good, the bad and the ugly – from God’s eternal perspective. Therefore, whatever you may be facing, don’t lose heart. GOD IS FOR YOU and not against you. **The Spirit is praying** that God’s good purpose will be accomplished in you (v.26). **Jesus is interceding** for you (v.34). Even if you don’t pray perfectly or your faith is weak, you know that Holy Spirit and Jesus are interceding for you!!

(5) To live in the Spirit means that you live everyday with the unshakable **confidence that God is for you not against you** (v.31).

a) Believe in God’s POWER and PROTECTION.

b) Believe in God’s PROVISION. God will provide everything we need.

c) Believe in God’s PARDON. Jesus Christ has dealt with sins once and for all. He paid for your sins on the cross. Satan will try to accuse you and other people may try to condemn you, BUT Jesus is has justified you and is now interceding for you (v.34). Jesus now sits at the right hand of God and presents his argument to God the Father, our judge. No prosecution can succeed since God, our judge, has already justified us. Through Christ, our sin was already judged, the penalty paid in full, and all charges have been dropped. So who can accuse us?

d) Believe in God’s PRESENCE. “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?” (v.35) There is NO person or circumstance that can separate us from the love and the presence of Christ. Therefore, we are more than conquerors regardless of what we may be facing.

The ONE who saved you is greater than the one who opposes you; therefore, you are more than conquerors over what concerns you today! Your life is not defined by your circumstances, as hard as they may be. Your life is defined by who you are in Christ. YOU ARE WHO HE SAYS YOU ARE!!

So what is there to fear or worry about? Inner peace is found not in what you feel but in what you KNOW. You may not know how it’s all going to work out, but you KNOW the God who will work it out for your ultimate good and His ultimate glory!

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

IN – PURSUE RELATIONSHIP

1. Have you ever had a debt forgiven or loan paid by someone else? Share what happened. How did you feel about that?
2. How do you face each day and the battle ahead of you? How has God shown you that His purpose for you is good, and that He is for you, not against you?

UP – PURSUE GOD

Read Romans 8:29-39.

3. This passage lists many reasons to rejoice. Identify them. What is God's purpose for your life? What does each step, listed in verse 30, mean "For those God foreknew?"
4. Verse 37 says we are more than conquerors. In what ways does the passage confirm this?

OUT – PURSUE MISSION

5. God will use all that happens to us to conform us into the image of Jesus. Don't waste your trials! What challenges are you facing today? Pray for each other in this regard.
6. Considering your answers to #5, what is the greatest challenge for the church as a whole to live in the Spirit? How can we encourage one another in times of doubts and fears?

FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

Go back and review the five principles of living in the Spirit Pastor Henry taught from Romans 8. Write them out along with the corresponding verses and post them up where you will see them. Use it as a reminder and a guide to pray that you may live daily in the Spirit. Memorize 2 Corinthians 4:16-18.

THE WORD (NIV)

Romans 8:29-39

²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

More Than Conquerors

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

"For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This week's writers: Elsa Henderson, Gene Gibbs, and Jorel Quemuel