

The Kiss of the Father

Part 2: Holy Spirit - Freedom and Purity

{1} What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? {2} By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? {3} Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? {4} We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

[Romans 6:1-4 ESV]

Grace doesn't give us
freedom **TO** sin.

Grace gives us freedom
FROM sin.

{6} We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. {7} For one who has died has been set free from sin. [Romans 6:6-7 ESV]

Flesh and Spirit Don't Jive Together

- {41} Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." [Matthew 26:41 ESV]
- {6} That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. [John 3:6 ESV]
- {63} It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. [John 6:63 ESV]

{1} There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. {2} For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. {3} For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, {4} in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. [Romans 8:1-4 ESV]

Conviction vs. Condemnation

- Holy Spirit brings conviction, not condemnation.
 - Conviction is a firmly held belief opinion
 - Condemnation is the expression of strong disapproval tied to a punishment with no mercy and forgiveness available.
- Holy Spirit changes your nature to have His firmly held beliefs; the conviction of the truth that will set you free.

5 Those who are motivated by the flesh only pursue what benefits themselves. But those who live by the impulses of the Holy Spirit are motivated to pursue spiritual realities. 6 For the mind-set of the flesh is death, but the mind-set controlled by the Spirit finds life and peace. 7 In fact, the mind-set focused on the flesh fights God's plan and refuses to submit to his direction, because it cannot! 8 For no matter how hard they try, God finds no pleasure with those who are controlled by the flesh.

9 But when the Spirit of Christ empowers your life, you are not dominated by the flesh but by the Spirit. And if you are not joined to the Spirit of the Anointed One, you are not of him. 10 Now Christ lives his life in you! And even though your body may be dead because of the effects of sin, his life-giving Spirit imparts life to you because you are fully accepted by God. 11 Yes, God raised Jesus to life! And since God's Spirit of Resurrection lives in you, he will also raise your dying body to life by the same Spirit that breathes life into you!

12 So then, beloved ones, the flesh has no claims on us at all, and we have no further obligation to live in obedience to it. 13 For when you live controlled by the flesh, you are about to die. But if the life of the Spirit puts to death the corrupt ways of the flesh, we then taste his abundant life.

Romans 8:5-13 (TPT)

Fernando's testimony

“This” Lord

- “16 But the moment one turns to the Lord with an open heart, the veil is lifted and they see. 17 Now, the “Lord” I’m referring to is the Holy Spirit, and wherever he is Lord, there is freedom.” (2 Cor. 3:16-17 TPT)
- Paul is teaching us that not every time the word Lord appears does it mean Jesus Christ. Here we see that “the Lord” refers to the Holy Spirit.

“This” Lord

- When the Holy Spirit is ruling, speaking, convincing us of truth, there is freedom.
- Jesus calls the Holy Spirit the Lord of the harvest who prepares the workers and the harvest fields, sending them out into specific places for the reaping of souls.
 - *37 He turned to his disciples and said, “The harvest is huge and ripe! But there are not enough harvesters to bring it all in. 38 As you go, plead with the Owner of the Harvest to thrust out many more reapers to harvest his grain!” (Matthew 9:38-39, TPT)*

Galatians 5:13 (TPT)

13 Beloved ones, God has called us to live a life of freedom in the Holy Spirit. But don't view this wonderful freedom as an opportunity to set up a base of operations in the natural realm. Freedom means that we become so completely free of self-indulgence that we become servants of one another, expressing love in all we do.

Galatians 5:16-17 (TPT)

16 As you yield freely and fully to the dynamic life and power of the Holy Spirit, you will abandon the cravings of your self-life. 17 For your self-life craves the things that offend the Holy Spirit and hinder him from living free within you! And the Holy Spirit's intense cravings hinder your old self-life from dominating you! So then, the two incompatible and conflicting forces within you are your self-life of the flesh and the new creation life of the Spirit.

{14} When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting to meet him. Then the **Spirit of the LORD rushed upon him**, and the ropes that were on his arms became as flax that has caught fire, and his bonds melted off his hands.
[Judges 15:14 ESV]

Response

- Surrender to Holy Spirit's work in your life
 - Lay down pride
 - Lay down the need to be right (being right all the time can get lonely)
 - Lay down defending yourself
- Do you love something else more than the Lord?
 - If God told you to do something “religious”, would you do it?
- It is for freedom, that Christ set you free; not bondage.