Interpretation – What does it mean?

Application – What does it mean for me?

Romans 7:24 – 8:11

New American Standard Version

²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body 1 of this death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our 2 3 Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law 4 of sin.^{8:1} Therefore there is now no condemnation for those 5 who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in 6 Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 7 ³For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the 8 flesh, God *did*: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful 9 10 flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, 11 4 so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the 12 Spirit. ⁵ For those who are according to the flesh set their minds 13 on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the 14 Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For the mind set on the flesh is 15 death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, ⁷ because 16 the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not 17 subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, 18 ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ However, 19 20 you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of 21 God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. ¹⁰ If Christ is in you, though 22 the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because 23 of righteousness. ¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus 24 from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from 25 the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His 26 Spirit who dwells in you. 27

Romans 7_24-8_11 HIGHLIGHTED (NASB).doc

Additional questions for thought and discussion:

Observation (What does it <u>say</u>?)

What <u>facts</u> do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

(A few general ideas)

Inductive Bible Study

Interpretation (What does it <u>mean</u>?)

What <u>questions</u> come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application (What does it mean <u>for me</u>?)

What is the <u>impact</u> on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them. J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)

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