

Romans 7:24 – 8:11

New American Standard Version

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

Observation (What does it say?):

Mark (circle, underline, box, etc.) what you notice in this passage:

- Repeated words or ideas
- Comparisons or contrasts
- Unusual or symbolic language
- Conditional (if–then) statements
- Other observations

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

After observing the passage:

- Which (if any) of your observations help you see the flow of the writer’s thought?
- How do the various repeated words relate to each other?
- What are the connections between words like flesh, spirit, mind, law?
- What questions come to mind as you read?
- How would you title this passage?

Application (What does it mean for me?):

- What does a “mind set on the Spirit” (line 16) look like?
- What would change in your life if your mind was increasingly “set on the Spirit”?
- How might this passage affect your understanding of who God is and what He is doing?

Additional questions for thought and discussion:

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation
(What does it say?)

What facts 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?

Interpretation
(What does it mean?)

What questions 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 for me?)

What is the impact 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)**