

ROMANS 8:12-27

BIBLE BASICS 2019

KEY THEMES

- A Conclusion (regarding the flesh)
- Led by the Spirit
- Spirit of Bondage vs Spirit of Adoption
- Sons, Children and Heirs
- Suffering and Glory
- The Longing of Creation
- What do we Hope for?
- The intercession of the Spirit

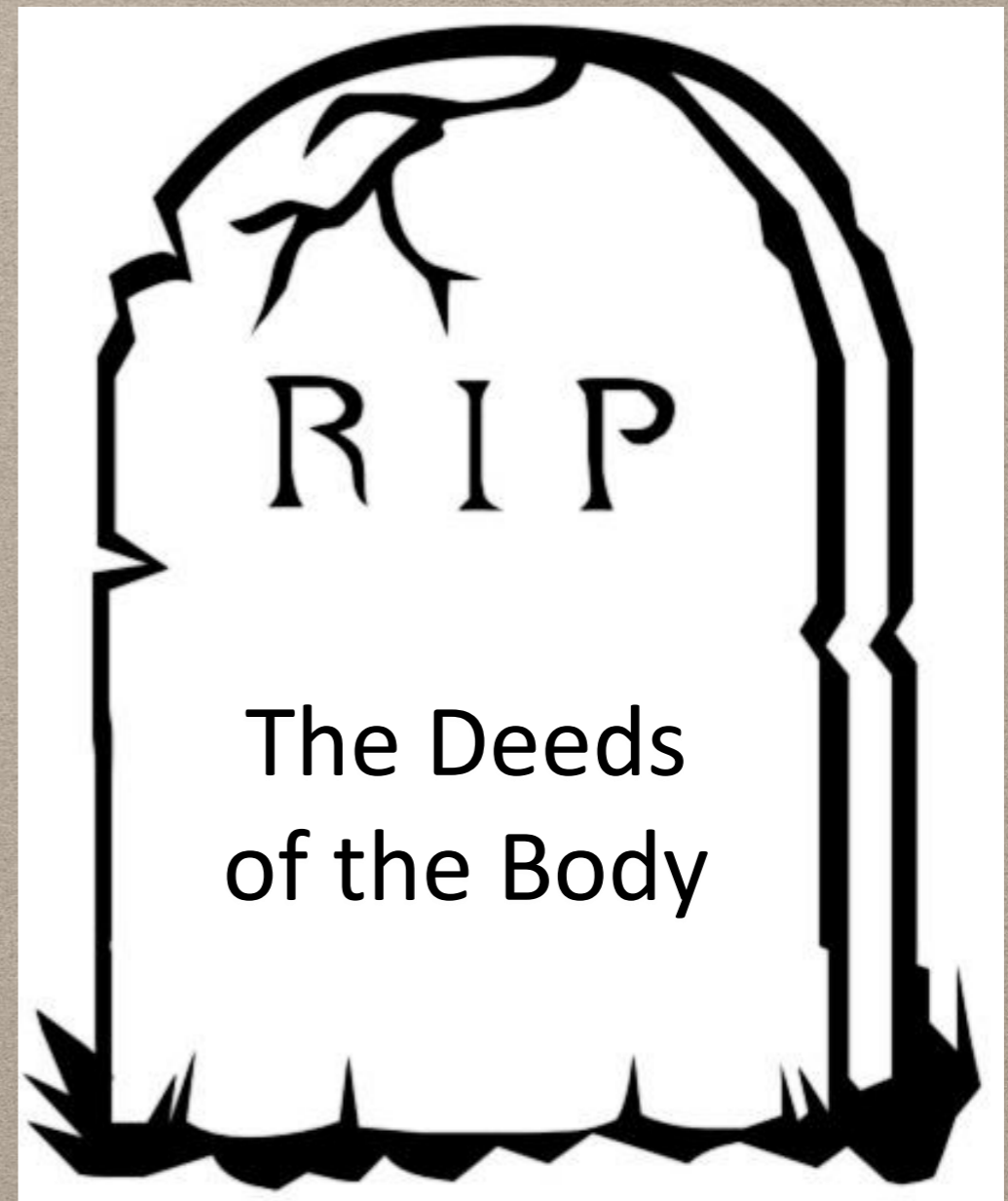
A CONCLUSION (THE NEGATIVE SIDE)

- No debt to the flesh
 - We owe it nothing!
 - We do not have to obey it
 - We are not under law (no condemnation)
 - We have the Holy Spirit as the power of the new life
- Living according to the flesh only leads to death



A CONCLUSION (THE POSITIVE SIDE)

- Put to death the deeds of the body
- BY THE SPIRIT - not by the efforts of the flesh
- 'You will live'
- Note: we are not said to be in debt to the Spirit



LED BY THE SPIRIT - SONS OF GOD

- We have seen the spirit as the power of the new life - working **with** us
- Now presented as a distinct person working **in** us (vs 14-27)
- He leads us to practically live for God
- The proper character of sons of God is to be led by the Spirit

SPIRIT OF BONDAGE VS SPIRIT OF ADOPTION

spirit of Bondage

Fear

Bondage / Slavery

Spirit of Adoption

'Abba Father'

Children - Relationship

Sons - Position

Heirs - Prospect

- The witness of the Spirit with our hearts gives us the consciousness that we are children of God.

SUFFERING AND GLORY

- As associated with Him we suffer with Him and also will be glorified with Him.
- Suffering **with** Him rather than **for** Him.
- Q. What does this mean?
- A. Living the new life (as led by the Spirit) in a world where all is marked by sin, feeling with a Him all the sorrows that this world is passing through.
- The sufferings cannot be compared with the coming glory!

THE LONGING OF CREATION

- Creation is marred by sin (man's sin), as a result of the fall
- But there is coming a day when the believers will be manifested as the sons of a God.
- This is the millennial reign of Christ, when all will be put to right in creation.
- Creation is waiting for us!



GROANING

- “We know” that the Creation groans under the effects of sin - the evidence is all around us!
- We also groan at the effect of sin, both on ourselves and on the world around us.



PRESENTATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- We have seen the Holy Spirit presented as:
 - Leader (v 14),
 - Witness (v15).
- Now we see Him as :
 - Firstfruits (v 23),
 - Helper (v 26),
 - Intercessor (v27).

WHAT TO WE HOPE FOR?

- Awaiting the adoption - the full state and glory of our position as sons of God
- Redemption of the body - when our bodies will be raised
- Firstfruits of the Spirit
 - Firstfruits in Israel - pledge and foretaste of harvest
 - Firstfruits of the Spirit - pledge and foretaste of the glory to come and the redemption of the body

HOPE AND PATIENCE

- While we wait we need two things:
 - 1. Hope
 - 2. Patience
- Summary
 - “We *know* the true character of this scene, we *groan* in divine sympathy with its misery, we *wait* for the redemption of the body, we wait in *hope* and we wait in *patience*”. H. Smith

THE HELP OF THE SPIRIT

- Good to take our groanings to the Lord in prayer.
- But how do we pray?
- We only know in part!
- The Spirit understands our groans
- He enters with sympathy into our circumstances



THE INTERCESSION OF THE SPIRIT

- The Spirit intercedes for us with groaning
- A groan expresses a depth of feeling beyond the power of words to utter.
- Only God, the Searcher of hearts can interpret a groan.
- The Spirit takes our prayers and our groanings and intercedes for us.
- He does this according to God, even though our prayers may be lacking.