

SERMON SUMMARY

Date: September 16, 2007	11:00 am Worship Service
Preacher: Rev. Donald Lawrence	Reference: Romans 8:1-17
Topic: Grasping Our Lord's Desire... As Stewards of His Gift of Unction	

The Christian is required to be in a state of readiness, exercise regularity in witness and know that there is responsibility to be knowledgeable of the demands of the faith; ignorance being no excuse. Today we come to the very important, yet in some ways difficult and controversial doctrine of the Holy Spirit. Ignorance is also no excuse in this matter, for here too we are held responsible for an adequate knowledge of the Holy Spirit.

Today's passage in Romans focuses on the acquittal (setting free), adjusted status and expected attitude of the Christian through the aid of The Holy Spirit, in conjunction with the saving work of Christ Jesus.

Verses 1-5 speak of Justification.

1. The Basis of Release
 - Action of the Spirit through the
 - Agency of Christ
2. The Battle for Release
 - Effort of the Law & Efficacy of Christ
- 3-4. The Bond for Release
 - Sacrifice of Christ which opened access to the resources of The Spirit.

This is a call to see that through the Spirit we are released from death. This demands a Celebration as a result of Salvation for those who live in the Spirit are not guilty.

Verses 5-11 speak of Regeneration.

- 5-8. **Unregenerate mind set**
 - focus on sinful desire, death, hostility to God
 - failure to submit to God's law
 - futility in pleasing God
- Regenerate mind set**
 - focus on Spirit's desire
 - future life of peace & joy

9. Converted sinner
 - Control – The Spirit frees from sin's control (9a)
 - Condition – The Spirit alone forges ties with Christ (9b)

10-11. Consequence – The Spirit flavors the future through Christ

This is a call to see that through the Spirit we are reset for life. There is Confidence as a result of Salvation for those who live in the Spirit are not grounded.

Sanctification is spoken of in verses 12-17.

- Duty to the Spirit (12)
- Danger of neglecting The Spirit (13)
- Declaration of Liberation by the Spirit (14-15)
- Discernment of The Spirit's presence (16)
- Destiny (suffering & glory) of The Spirit's leading (17)

This is a call to see that through the Spirit we have resources for holiness. There ought to be Commitment as a result of Salvation because those who live in the Spirit are not going it alone.

Through The Holy Spirit, we have been endowed, with all that pertains to freedom and fruitfulness in God. Let us therefore awake and apply ourselves to righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.