

THE CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE

Romans 8:12-14

Introduction: How easy is it for you to live like a Christian?

Romans 6, believers are set free from being slaves to sin because of their union to Christ.

Romans 7, believers are set free from the Law's domination because it does not create holiness but only exposes sin, which brings death.

Romans 8, the Holy Spirit is central to living the Christian life.

A. Our obligation [12-14]

1. Negative: don't live according to the sinful nature and die [12-13a]
 - a. Obligation/debt
 - b. Sinful nature
 - c. Die
 - d. Galatians 5:19-21
Ephesians 4:22-5:14
Colossians 3:5-10
Titus 2:11-14
2. Positive: be led (live) by the Spirit by putting to death the deeds of the sinful nature as God's children [13b-14]
 - a. Review:
 - 1) Vs, 9, 11: indwelling
 - 2) Confess sin (agree with God)
 - 3) Yield to the Spirit
 - b. The Spirit leads us in to a life of holiness

B. The Spirit leads us from the path of the sinful nature (temptation and sin) and into holiness. Matthew 4:1-11

1. Temptation and testing
 - a. Jesus and temptation, Heb. 4:15
 - b. The Spirit and temptation, Eph. 6:17
2. Temptations of the flesh, the body, Mt. 4:2-4
 - a. Real, but not determinative
 - b. Spiritual food is more important than physical food
 - c. The tension between the spiritual and the material
 - d. The danger of neglecting the spiritual in the pressure of the physical
3. Temptations of the world, especially pride, Mt. 4:5-7
 - a. The use of illegitimate means for legitimate purposes
 - b. Misquoting Scripture (Psalm 91:11-12)
Blasphemy is saying God said when He didn't.
4. Temptations of the soul: power and idolatry (false ultimate values), Mt. 4:8-10
 - a. The temptation to want power, to want to be recognized as important.
 - b. Mark 8:36
 - c. The devil and the world offer us what they have no right or ability to give us
 - d. God will one day rule over all of the kingdoms of the world and eventually destroy them
5. Temptation overcome, Mt. 4:11

CONCLUSION