

THE CARNAL MIND IS DEATH | ROMANS 8:5-7

- Verse 5
 - Having used **me** (v. 2) and **us** (v. 4) as his pronoun for those **who walk not after the flesh**, Paul now uses **they** to speak of another group of people who are *not in Christ*. In the latter portion of this verse, he will speak of **they that are after the Spirit** to once again refer to those *in Christ*.
 - Beginning in 8:1, Paul is contrasting two groups; those *in Christ* and those *outside of Christ*.
- Verse 6
 - **to be spiritually minded** - More literally, "the mind of the Spirit is life and peace," to clarify which **spiritually minded** path brings **life and peace**.
- Verse 7
 - **the carnal mind** - Literally, *the mind of the flesh*.

THE STATUS OF THOSE IN THE FLESH AND IN THE SPIRIT | ROMANS 8:8-12

- Verse 8 - **they that are in the flesh** are the opposite of those who are *in Christ*, or **in the Spirit** (v. 9). Their status: they **cannot please God**. Therefore, no salvation of works is possible in the flesh. (Once again, this does not require a Calvinist doctrine that creates salvation prior to the point of faith. Rather, this simply says that *faith is not physical, for the physical cannot please God*.)
- Verse 9
 - **not in the flesh, but in the Spirit** - This is fundamentally important to an understanding of v. 8, and clarifies that being **in the flesh** is not a reference to temporal lapses of behavior, but to the spiritual condition of the individual.
 - **if so be it...**
 - **If** could be translated *since*. This verse is definitive in its statement that *all saved people have the Spirit*.
 - These words equate **the Spirit of God** and **the Spirit of Christ** as the same Spirit.
 - Note: John 14:26 refers to the **Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name** (i.e.: the name of Christ).
 - In John 16:14 the Scripture reveals that the Holy Spirit will **glorify me** [Christ], **for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you**.
 - Further, Jesus promised **I am with you always, even unto the end of the world** (Mt. 28:20), but also spoke repeatedly of going to His Father, two statements which logically require that the Holy Spirit be the Spirit of Christ.
- Verse 10
 - When Christ is **in you**, then you are *crucified in Christ* and thus **the body is dead because of sin**. That is, the penalty for sin has been paid in your body because your body is in Christ.
 - And, *the life you now live, you live by faith* (Gal. 2:20). By the righteousness of Christ (2 Cor 5:20) have **life because of righteousness**.
- Verse 11
 - This verse is given as a reminder that the Body is not evil (as taught by the gnostics) and not meaningless (as taught by much of modern evangelicalism), but is currently dead and will be raised again (compare Paul's dilemma in Philippians 1:22-23.)
- Verse 12 - This is the heart of the sentence, and the foundation for responsible Christian living. As debtors, we live in gratitude to the One who paid the debt on our behalf.

LIVING FOR THE SPIRIT | ROMANS 8:13-15

- Verse 13 –
 - Do not use this verse to build a doctrine of falling from Grace. Paul has already stated that his audience is **not in the flesh, but in the Spirit** (v. 9). Verse 13 is the scenario for a person who is not included in verse 9.
- Verse 14 –
 - The next verse again defines the Christian audience as having received the Spirit. Do not make a scenario which this verse does not teach, that of falling from Grace.
- Verse 15 –
 - This is the condition of the believer, and the reason that the believer ultimately desires to please God (even when he or she fails to always do so.)