

THE REAL YOU

Incredible Treasure

Romans 8; 2 Corinthians 4:7

I. FREEDOM FROM CONDEMNATION (8:1)

- Because of the truth of Romans 6 & 7 the believer is free from all condemnation. (*Rom.8:1*).
- The only qualifier is to those who are in Christ Jesus.
- God is for us, justified us, keeps us and gives us the victory (*Rom.8:35-39*).

II. FREEDOM FROM SIN AND LAW (8:2-14)

- We were freed from the law of sin and death and are alive in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit (*Rom.8:2*).
- We have been freed to live as directed by the Spirit and not the flesh (*Rom.8:4*).
- Walk in the Spirit and stand firm in freedom (*Gal.5:1*).

III. FREEDOM FROM PERFORMANCE (2 Cor.4:7)

- The earthen vessel is the broken believer.
- The incredible treasure is the indwelling Holy Spirit.
- The ministry of the Holy Spirit:
 - a. **Glorious:** He reveals, frees, & exalts Christ (*3:1-18*).
 - b. **Gospel:** He convicts of sin, regenerates (*4:1-6*).
 - c. **Greatness:** He activates the power of God (*4:7*).
- Our sole obligation is to walk in the Spirit: to live in sole dependence upon Him; and to allow Him to live His life in and through us.

Illustration

Gideon's Victory

Judges 7

The Midianites and the Amalekites assembled for war against Israel (Jud.6:33). They had a vast army (Jud.7:12) with one section numbering 135,000 swordsmen (Jud.8:10).

The Lord told Gideon to assemble an army to fight against the enemy. The Lord told him to reduce the size of his army so that they would know it was the Lord who was going to give the victory (Jud.7:2). First Gideon sent home 22,000 of his men leaving 10,000 (Jud.7:3). This was still too many. So the Lord had Gideon perform a test. They were to drink from a stream and the ones who bent down to lap water were sent home. The ones who raised water in their cupped hands to drink were left of which there were 300 men (Jud.7:5-7).

These 300 were told to surround the enemy with only a trumpet and a clay pitcher with fire inside. When the signal was given by Gideon they were to break their pitchers holding their flaming torches high while blowing their trumpets.

The Midianite army was thrown into confusion and they killed each other and those that remained fled (Jud.7:22; 8:10).

The analogy

The believer in Jesus is the clay vessel/pitcher.

The fire symbolizes the Holy Spirit within us (Acts 2:3).

When we are broken before the Lord, the power of the Holy Spirit is activated and the enemy is put to flight.

The Application:

Walk in the surpassing greatness of the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit