



The Planter

"The seed is the word of God", Luke 8:11



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No Condemnation

Wayne Burger

In Romans chapter seven Paul described the condemnation that living under a system of law such as the Jews had when they were under God's Law of Moses. He talked about the struggles he had (7:14-24) and summarized it by saying, "O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" (Romans 7:24 KJV). He gave the answer by saying, "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (Romans 7:25 NASB). In contrast to life under Law, Paul described life under grace in chapter eight. He began that great chapter with the very heart of the gospel.

"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (v. 1). For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death (2). For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did, sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh" (v. 3).

Notice key ideas in these verses.

The Old Law brought condemnation but through God's new plan "there is no condemnation" (v. 1). "No condemnation" comes to those who are in Christ Jesus (v. 1). In Romans 6:3-4 Paul reminded them that one gets into Christ when He or she is baptized by immersion. He said that action is described as "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus" (v. 2). He said that getting into Christ "set you free from the law of sin and of death" (v. 2). "The law of sin and death" is another term for the Law of Moses that Paul talked about in Romans seven. It was called "the law of sin and death" because when one sinned by violating one of God's commands given through Moses, that person died spiritually and was separated from God (Isaiah 59:1-2).

Paul said that the weakness of the Law was through man's inability to keep all of them perfectly. To violate one of them was like violating all of them (James 2:10). The Law of Moses was "holy, and the commandment is holy

and righteous and good" (7:12). But, the only way those commands could save anyone was for a person to never violate one of them.

God's new plan offered salvation to everyone, not because of what one does, but because of what Jesus did for us. Paul described this blessing this way, "God did, sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh" (v. 3). Jesus was a man "who been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15). Because God gave Him a body (Hebrews 10:5) and because He did not sin, He became that perfect payment for our sins.

While Jesus was on earth He said, "Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am He you will die in your sins" (John 8:24). Peter preached to the Jews the first sermon in the age described in Romans 8. He concluded that sermon by explaining what a sinner has to believe about Jesus, "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him, both Lord and Christ – this Jesus whom you crucified" (Acts 2:36). The people that day asked, "What shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). Peter's answer was, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). When one is baptized in this way and for this purpose, he or she enters Jesus Christ where there is no condemnation (Romans 6:3-4; 8:1).

John explained how those who are in Christ will not be condemned. He wrote, "If we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin" (I John 1:7).

Romans 8:1-3 is a powerful encouraging passage that gives us hope! We are not condemned by the law of sin and death when we get into Christ Jesus. Have you been obedient so that you are not condemned? If you do not have this blessing, please let us help you receive it.

--via Meditating In The Word, Vol. 18, No. 43 (11/2/25)

December 14, 2025

Sunday Morning

Opening Prayer

Closing Prayer

Tim York

Carter Logan

Scripture Reading

Rhyan Dishroom

Sunday Evening

Opening Prayer

Closing Prayer

Adam Morgan

Jeff Duncan

Remember in prayer:

Freda Anderson continues to recover from her fall and foot injury.

Amanda Fletcher (radiation treatments).

Joan Henry fell Saturday and had to have surgery.

Luke Keller, Jill Spears, Wally Booker, Joan Henry, Norene and Ronnie O'Kelly, Heidi Street, Don Duncan, Randall Glaze, Joe Chambers, Bill and Billie Nolen, Stefan Hoglund, Sammy Wyers.

Oak View Nursing Home: Betty Floyd.

Home: Rachel Taylor.

Our Congregational Holiday Meal will be today following our morning services, followed by our singing and devotional at 1:00 pm.

Record for the week of December 7, 2025

10 am	11 am	5 pm	Wed	Contribution
104	98	75	76	\$3255.00

Where some of your contribution goes:

Richards/Waldron Mission Fund

In Search of the Lord's Way

Gospel Broadcasting Network

Pacific Islands Missions

The Mannah Project (Josh Robinson)

International Gospel Hour

Childhaven Children's Home, 5th Sunday

Tennessee Children's Home, 5th Sunday

Rainbow Village Children's Home, March and September

Just Breathe

Cory Waddell

We are now at the time of year when the pace of life seems to triple in speed. The organized chaos of sports, year-end goals for jobs, and the daylight hours getting shorter leave us all feeling like there just isn't enough time to get it all done. Oh, and not to cause panic, but there are only 11 days left until Christmas.

Being busy can be a good thing, but it has its drawbacks as well. One of the biggest drawbacks of running around is that it tends to prevent us from listening and thinking clearly. We become so overwhelmed by the movement and piled on tasks that our ability to process life is inhibited. It is in those times of life that we need to heed these words...stop what you're doing and just breathe.

The power of stopping has been lost on our current generations. We all say we want it, but we rarely make ourselves do it. A few years ago, we were forced to stop because of a pandemic. Now, we must force the issue with ourselves. To be sure, it's not easy. Most of us become rather unnerved when it's quiet for too long. However, I am more and more convinced that, as people of faith we must begin implementing quiet times of breathing, reflection, and meditation on God's word so that we keep our spiritual and emotional sanity.

Consider how great a value the Bible places on quietness in life.

"But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him." (Habakkuk 2:20)

"In repentance and rest you will be saved, in quietness and trust is your strength." (Isaiah 30:15)

"Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10)

These next couple of months will indeed see our lives speed up and become more hectic. However, I'm not sure they have to be. Take time regularly to be silent before God. Make time to reflect in quiet solitude, even if it's only ten or fifteen minutes. The strength that will come from those times will help carry us through these crazy times.

Elders:

Steve Fletcher, Hugh Glaze, Dan Logan, Tim York

Deacons: Justin Glaze, Carter Logan, Adam Morgan, Jerry Reaves

Minister: Hugh Glaze

Song Leader: Adam Morgan

"Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account" Phi 4:17