

# CONFLICT AND VICTORY

## INTRODUCTION

### "Romans" so far:

- The world is condemned and cannot save itself.
- God's reckoned righteousness, a gift received by faith.
- Result: The reversal of the misery brought by Adam.



### Topic: "A Believer's Conflict & Victory" (6:1-8:39)

- Those who wear Christ's righteousness should be righteous.
- Though a struggle the result is certain victory.

## A CHRISTIAN SHOULD BE WHAT HE IS – 6:1-7:6

### 1] Christians are dead, buried and risen with Christ (6:1-14)

- Salvation depends on it – baptism illustrates it. (vv.1-6)
- If *dead* they should not sin – if *alive* they should live for God. (vv.7-14)



**You can be sure you *died* with Him, if your life shows you are *raised* with Him. Why?**

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### 2] Christians are free from the slavery of sin (6:15-23)

- He who sins is a slave of his sinful nature. (vv.15-16) <sup>1</sup>
- The body should be a slave of righteousness and God. (vv.17-22)



**Many say they're free who are slaves of passion. Discuss**

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<sup>1</sup> John 8:34: "Jesus answered them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin'."

3] Christians are free from the law as a way of salvation. (7:1-6)

- Death in Christ freed us from the law <sup>2</sup>, as in marriage. (vv.1-4)
- Subsequent marriage to Christ results in fruitful and *willing* service. (v.6)

**When free from the law for salvation it becomes a delight. Why?**



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## A CHRISTIAN’S STRUGGLE – 7:7-25

1] Paul and the law *before* he became a Christian – past tense (7:7-13)

- God’s law stirred up sinful desires (vv.5,8) and pronounced death. (vv.9 -13)
- Sin, not the law, was the root cause of death. (v.13)

**Children illustrate this tendency to want the very thing that is forbidden. Give examples**



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2] Paul and the law *after* he became a Christian – present tense (7:14-25)

- Paul struggles to obey the law, but fails because of his sinful nature. (vv.14 -17)
- He longs to be delivered from his sinning body. (vv.18-25)

**Why do you think a believer’s struggle shows he is a Christian?**



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<sup>2</sup> Acts 15:10 “Now therefore, why do you test God by putting a yoke [i.e. the law] on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?”

# A CHRISTIAN’S VICTORY – CHAP 8

## 1] Victory over the guilt and power of sin (8:1-17)

- He is not condemned for Christ has done everything for him. (vv.1 -4)
- God’s Spirit helps him put sin to death. (vv.5-13)
- The Spirit assures the Christian that he is a child of God. (vv.15 -17)



**Why is the Spirit more than sufficient help in overcoming sin?**

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## 2] Victory over suffering – ultimately (8:18-30)

- Creation and believers *groan* for release from suffering. (vv.18-23)
- The Spirit *groans* within the believer with helpful prayer. (v.26-27)
- Predestination’s chain guarantees heaven’s glory, and full liberty. (vv.28 -30)



**The certainty of a believer’s salvation is an encouragement to persevere. Why?**

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## 3] Victory – because God is on their side (8:31-39)

- He freely supplies lesser gifts, having given us His greatest – Jesus. (8:31-32)
- None can condemn or separate us from His unchanging love in Christ. (8: 33-34)



**Explain how the infinite power of God on our side guarantees our final salvation.<sup>3</sup>**

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## TO CONCLUDE

Paul now goes on to discuss Israel’s rejection of Christ.

(This will be the next topic)

<sup>3</sup> John 10:29: “My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand.”