



# **THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD**

## **CHRIST THE LORD PARISH**

**LAGOS PROVINCE 20, LEKKI PHASE 1**

**TUESDAY APRIL 23, 2024**

**THEME: THE STUDY OF THE BOOK OF ROMANS**

**TOPIC: CREATION OF A NEW HUMANITY**

**TEXT: ROMANS 7:1-7, 12, 21-23, 25; 8:1 – 4, 9-11,14, 35-37**

**INTRODUCTION:** The general theme of Paul's letter to the church in Rome was the righteousness of God. In our earlier studies, we learnt that all humanity is hopelessly guilty of sin and needs to be rescued. Though the Jewish believed they were better off than the non-Jewish as God gave them the law or Torah to guide the way they lived, we saw that they were wrong, as they are as sinful as the rest of humanity. We learnt that there can be no salvation based on obeying the law. God loves humanity and because of His righteousness, He made provisions for saving humanity by sending Jesus Christ as a Messiah to die as a sacrifice for sin. Jesus also resurrected thereby making life available to all people. Once we have faith in Christ, we are given a new status, become a member of a new family, forgiven our sins, have a new future and can begin a journey of a transformed life by God's grace. Last week, we examined death through Adam and Life through Christ, emphasizing that justification by faith in Christ creates new humanity and is the only way to salvation. Also, by baptism we identify with the death and resurrection of Jesus to live a new life. We also discussed the availability of Grace, concluding it is always available. Today, we continue to look at God's creation of a new humanity, by closely examining the law and its purpose and what the actual problem of humanity is, concluding in chapter 8 that the real solution is Jesus and the Spirit that enable people fulfil the call of the commands to love God and their neighbour.

### **OUTLINE 1**

#### **i. FREED FROM THE LAW/AN ILLUSTRATION FROM MARRIAGE – ROMANS 7: 1 – 6:**

- The law only has authority over the living: Romans 7:1-3.
- Union with Christ frees from bondage of law: Romans 7: 4- 6.

#### **ii. LAW AND SIN – ROMANS 7: 7 – 12**

- The law is not sin but reveals what sin is: verse 7.
- Without law, there is no sin and sin is dead. Sin produces evil desires: Romans7: 8; Romans 4:15; 1Corinthians 15:56
- With the law and commandments, all will be guilty and die: Romans 7: 10.
- The Law is holy, just and good – verse 12: 1 Timothy 1:8

#### **iii. INNER CONFLICT/LAW CANNOT SAVE FROM SIN – ROMANS 7: 13 – 25**

- The law by itself is spiritual and good because it reveals our sinful nature: Romans7: 14 - 16.
- Sin in our natural bodies makes us misbehave – Romans 7:17 – 20; Acts 10:1 -2, 44 – 46.
- Presence of inner conflict – Romans 7:21 – 24;1 Corinthians 10:12; Romans 8: 7 - 8.
- Law cannot save from sin: Romans 7:23 - 25; Romans 8:3
- Be a slave to God's law – Romans 7:25;

## OUTLINE 2

### i. SPIRITUAL FREEDOM/FREE FROM INDWELLING SIN – ROMANS 8: 1 – 11

- Justification by Grace through faith in Christ alone – verse 1-4; Galatians 2:19; Romans 5:21; Ephesians 2:8-9.
- Carnal mind vs Spiritual mind/Sanctification and the work of the Holy Spirit: verse 5-11.

### ii. LIFE THROUGH THE SPIRIT – ROMANS 8: 12 – 17

- Put to death the flesh and live: Romans 8:13; Galatians 5:17, 19 – 21; 2 Corinthians 5:17.
- Adopted sonship with the father – verse 14 - 15
- Children of God: Romans 8: 16 – 17.

### iii. FROM SUFFERING TO GLORY - ROMANS 8: 18 - 30

- Delayed gratifications – sufferings now cannot compare with future glory: Romans 8:18-19.
- Spiritual liberty: Romans 8: 21
- There is a period of waiting with expectation and perseverance– Romans 8 :23, 25; Philippians 3:21.
- Intercession of the Holy Spirit according to the will of God: Romans 8: 26 - 27.
- All things work together for good to those who love God; the called according to His purpose: Romans 8: 28.
- Christian calling is a foreordained plan: Romans 8: 29-30; Jeremiah 1:5.

### iv. GOD'S EVERLASTING LOVE – ROMANS 8: 31 – 39

- We have confidence in God: Romans 8: 31, 33. If God is for us, who can be against us?
- We are assured of God's wonderful love: Romans 8:32.
- No condemnation for us as Christ died, is risen and sits at God's right hand of God interceding for us. Romans 8:34.
- We have spiritual victory through Christ, and nothing shall separate us from the love of Christ. Romans 8: 35- 37.
- Inseparable from the love of God. Romans 8: 38 – 39.

## CONCLUSION

God's plan for humanity is to have a unified church – a faith-based, multiethnic family as his covenant children, justified by their faith in Jesus and raised with Him from the dead. Only these members of a new humanity - those born again, who surrender to the lordship of Jesus can truly love him. They are free from the law because they died to sin and have their faith in Jesus who died and paid for their sin. They are the ones that can truly love God and their neighbours. They have been given God's Spirit and are able to call God their father. They are also co-heirs with Christ and will enjoy blessings kept for God's children. They are assured of God's eternal love and are inseparable from the love of God.

By contrast, those who seem good to the world but are not saved do not have the Spirit of God in them, so they cannot be God's. The end for sinners is death, whilst the saved pass on to eternal life and can never perish. John 10:28.