

## “Never Free of Debt”

February 2, 2020

**Scripture Text: Romans 8:9-17 NKJV** **9** *But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. **10** And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. **11** But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. **12** Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. **13** For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. **15** For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” **16** The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, **17** and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.*

**VERSE 9** *But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God **dwells** in you. Now if anyone does not have **the Spirit of Christ**, he is not His.*

The word **dwells** indicates a permanent resident. The Holy Spirit is never looking for a month to month rental or temporary residence. Jesus made the purchase for the house (your body) and the Holy Spirit is the resident! There are no secret room in the house o that say, **“DO NOT ENTER!”** or **“NO TRESPASSING!”** **I**

**Corinthians 6: 20NKJV** For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s. When you invite Him into your heart, you give Him the key to the purchased property and it’s **forever!**

**What is the Spirit of Christ? The Spirit of Christ and the Spirit of God are one of the same. The Spirit is the third person in what we identify as the Trinity or the Triune God**

## **Father, Son and Holy Spirit with three distinct personalities!**

### **How do we know that His Spirit dwells within us?**

The moment a person repents and believes; God's Spirit enters that individual, and then seals him/her with the mark of ownership to provide the source of power for living. **Ephesians 1:13-14 NKJV** 13 *In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation (Gospel is that Christ died for your sins, was buried, and He rose from the dead.); in whom (Christ) also, having believed, you were sealed with (or given that mark of ownership) the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.*

He will remain with us until we either leave this life or are taken out in the Rapture. Acts 7:59-60 NKJV 59 *And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."* 60 *." And when falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them he had said this, he fell asleep.*

### **What are the signs of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of Christ?**

The Spirit of Christ sets us apart from the ways of the world.

The Spirit of Christ depends on the heavenly wisdom.

The Spirit of Christ leads us according to the will of the Father.

The Spirit of Christ anoints us for the work of ministry.

The Spirit of Christ empowers us to be mighty prayer warriors.

The Spirit of Christ comforts us in times of trouble and affliction.

The Spirit of Christ produces the fruit of righteousness. (Galatians 5:22-23 NKJV 22 *But the **fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control;** against such things there is no law.*

**VERSE 10** *And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the **Spirit is life** because of righteousness.*

As followers Of Christ we are not to focus on living a life to gratify our flesh (the Pride of Life) because we know that sin has marred everything. These bodies will fail in every way and our flesh does not encourage us to live a righteous life. This is why we fight to walk in the spirit and allow Christ to lead us.

When we accepted Christ as our Lord and Savior, we traded up (**Death for Life**). We are reminded of Jesus' words in **John 6:63 NKJV** "It is the Spirit Who gives life; the flesh profits (**ABSOLUTELY**) nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are **Spirit** and are **Life**." If the words Jesus spoke (are) **Spirit** and **Life**, it befits us as often as possible to let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly. **Col 3:16 NKJV** "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." Paul is encouraging the saints in Colossians as I am encouraging that this is **walking in the Spirit**.

Do you think that it is unreasonable to go with the flow of the world? We are to be engaged in the Word and disciplined by Holy Spirit. God desires to use us but if our minds are contrary to the will of God, how can He use us to bring Him glory?

**VERSE 11** *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give **life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you**.*

Did you know that everything God does He does as the Triune God. Each Person of the Trinity has a part in every action of God. Each Person has a special role to fulfill in that work of God... **Anything that we receive from God is brought to us and wrought in us by the Holy Spirit. Nor is there in us (our Flesh) anything good or praise worthy towards God, any faith, any love or any obedience to His will. On the other hand, we are enabled to have faith, love and obedience to His will from the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit.**

Dear Saints we are in a fight to the end of our days to be the Righteousness of Christ in the earth and it requires sacrifice and surrender to the will of God. People need to be sealed, healed and delivered by the Holy Spirit! **Each time that we look to self-Nothing seems Possible! Let's not stop short of what God can and will do with us who believe that anything is possible with Him.**

With Christ being alive in us we can each be assured as Paul said in **I Corinthians 15:53-55 NTL 53** For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies. **54** Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory **55** O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? **56** NKJV The sting of death *is* sin, and the strength of sin *is* the law. **57** But thanks *be* to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**VERSE 12** *Therefore, brethren, **we are debtors**—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.*

**Debt** is a word that usually brings certain negative connotations. Being free of debt is a great aspiration to have and some people are very committed to not being in debt so they pay for everything in cash. I ask you, if you wanted to make a purchase with cash do you owe the merchant? Yes, you owe him the agreed upon price for the item which you purchased from your desire have it. The American dream is to reach the point where you are debt-free. And yet, there are some debts from which you can never be free of. **Someone who gave you help when you most needed it.**

**Think about this**, if you were enslaved by a cruel master would you want to be free? Yes! What if, after all the years of your bondage, one day a great master who was very compassionate, loving and kind purchased your freedom with a costly price. Do you think that you would be in debt to honor and obey him with your life? The bottom line as Bob Dillion sang, "You are going to serve somebody." **You choose, Christ or the Devil?**

**Romans 13 NLT** *Owe nothing to anyone—except for your obligation to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God's law.*

**Applications:**

**Your worth is greater than the sum of your estate.**

**Look not to yourself but to the One who created you.**