



Calling deserters back to the gospel  
Mark 14:72

JANUARY 17, 2010

# THE GOOD NEWS OVERCOMING US

The Holy Spirit Brings Us  
Hope in Our Weakness.

Hear ☼

*Read Romans 8.1-25*

Over the last two weeks, we have considered Jesus making his gospel known in us and our frustration we face as people who are simultaneously saints and sinners. This week we will focus on our hope that breaks in by the ministry of the Holy Spirit. As you read through this passage in Romans, remember the frustration that Paul described in Romans 7 and consider the enormity of the hope he presents in Romans 8.

TIP for families with young worshippers: you may want to read through this passage in segments. [Maybe verses 1-11 the first day, 12-17 the next, followed by 18-25.]

Love ☼

What is condemnation? What does verse 1 mean for us? Does the word “now” mean that this will change at some point?

What happened to sin in Jesus’s death? What happens to the Law in us?

What does the Spirit make of our fear in v. 15? What kind of Spirit have we received, and what does he do for us in vv. 12-17?

What does v. 18 say about our sufferings? Do you think this includes the frustrations and pains we saw in Romans 7?

Proclaim ☼

Paul draws our new life in the Holy Spirit as joyful and triumphant, but that doesn’t mean that he suddenly ignores or dismisses the struggles he described in Romans 7. What does Romans 8 have to tell us when we feel the frustrations of Romans 7? When do you need this comfort and hope the most? When do you see this need in others, and how will you preach the good news to each other at those times?



There is something tricky in this passage; Paul keeps using the words “flesh” and “body” and “Spirit.” If we aren’t careful it starts to sound like Paul is saying that our physical bodies are the problem. But, we know that our physical flesh cannot be the problem, because we read that Jesus became flesh (without corruption) in John 1.14 and 1 Corinthians 15 promises that we will have bodies of flesh in the new heavens and new earth.

So, how do we make sense of what Paul is saying here? How should we understand his use of the words “body” and “flesh” in this chapter?

