

God's Answer for the Despairing Sinner

Rom. 7:24-25

Introduction:

- A. Paul's describes his despair under the law of Moses in last half of chapter 7.
 - 1. Sold and struggling under sin with no deliverance (v. 14-23).
 - 2. A feeling of despair (v. 24).
 - 3. The answer bursts through like sun and end of storm (v. 25).
- B. It is not hard to find reasons for despair in this world.
- C. Paul saw three great benefits in Christ to relieve his despair in chapter 8.

Discussion:

I. No Condemnation in Christ (v. 1)

- A. Because He frees us from the law of sin and death (2-3; cf. 7:23).
 - 1. "The law" (of Moses) could not do it (v. 3; cf. Heb. 10:1-4)
 - 2. "The law of the Spirit of life" did do it (v. 2; cf. Heb. 8:12)
 - 3. We are made free and kept free by forgiveness.
- B. Because we are "in Christ"
 - 1. No condemnation "in Christ" (v. 1)
 - 2. Law of Spirit.. "in Christ" (v. 2).
 - 3. Baptized into Christ and the church (Rom. 6:3; 1 Cor. 12:13)
- C. Because we "walk after the spirit and not the flesh" (vv, 1, 4; cf. Gal 5:18-24)

II. Hope in Christ (v. 24).

- A. Based on being sons of God (vv. 14-21; Cf. Gal. 3:26, 27)
- B. Hope of better times yet to come (v. 25; cf. 2 Cor. 4:16-5:8).

III. Security in Christ (v. 28)

- A. Complete security.
 - 1. Insured by the complete Godhead (vv. 26-27; 31-34)
 - 2. Insured against all danger (35-39)
- B. Conditional security.
 - 1. Based on being in Christ (v. 39)
 - 2. Can depart from God (Heb. 3:13; 1 Cor. 10:12)
 - 3. Can fall from grace (Gal. 5:4)

Conclusion:

- A. There is no reason to despair.
- B. We can come to Christ by faith and obedience.
- C. We can "walk after the Spirit."