

1. Our LifeLine next Monday, 11/21, is 2 Corinthians 4:4. Don't miss this! It has implications throughout the holiday season!
2. After 11/ 21, we'll resume 1/9/23.

## LifeLines November 14, 2022

### Today's Scripture: 1 Verse

#### Romans 8:1

**There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.**

### WHY WE'RE HERE

2 Timothy 3:16-17, All scripture is inspired by God & is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, & for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

### CONTEXT

In Chapter 7, Paul addressed the reason for inner struggles believers often experience. He said for them to take notice of what gave them uneasiness *and* to remember the solid ground of faith on which they now stood. He explained that this belief should give them a foundation of spiritual peace & joy. He also explained they had been adopted & were now justified through Christ.

Chapter 8 begins with Paul's wonderful words of comfort. Notice he doesn't say there's nothing *condemnable in them!* Sin is in all of us & is condemnable *unless* the sinner is *in Christ Jesus*.

### DIFFERENT VERSIONS

#### NLT

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

#### AMP

Therefore there is now no condemnation (no guilty verdict, no punishment) for those who are in Christ Jesus (who believe in Him as personal Lord & Savior).

## **KJV**

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

## **TLB**

So there is now no condemnation awaiting those who belong to Christ Jesus.

## **NLV**

Now, because of this, those who belong to Christ will not suffer the punishment of sin.

## **CSB ( Christian Standard Bible)**

Therefore, no condemnation now exists for those in Christ Jesus.

## **GNT**

There is no condemnation now for those who live in union with Christ.

## **GW (God's Word Translation)**

So those who are believers in Christ Jesus can no longer be condemned.

## **MSG**

With the arrival of Jesus, the Messiah, that fateful dilemma is resolved. Those who enter into Christ's being-here-for-us no longer have to live under a continuous, low-lying black cloud.

## **SELAH**

## **BREAKING DOWN THE VERSE**

*There is therefore now...* Belief in & acceptance of Jesus as our Savior changes everything, especially our ultimate destination! Before Jesus came, everyone was under the law. The law dictated their destination. They were taught that only if they followed the law *to the letter of the law*, would they be acceptable to the Most High God. This was an impossible task. Scribes & Pharisees enjoyed their sense of superiority over the average Jews.

**Now**, because of Jesus, the crucifixion & resurrection, we are all free from the law of sin & death. Death has no power over believers. There's a new conclusion for all who believe.

*no condemnation...* While every sin deserves condemnation, only those living “under the law” *will* be condemned. For those of us who have declared our belief in Jesus there is not even one condemnation or one sentence of condemnation. *Our heart* may often remind us of our sinful tendencies or mistakes & try to condemn us. *The devil* certainly takes every opportunity to remind us of our failures & shortcomings, & he definitely wants us to feel condemned. *But we are not condemned by the Most High God!* Hallelujah! There is no eternal death penalty for us. We have been set free! There is no condemnation because we will be glorified as Christ was glorified.

Our growing faith, love for God & acknowledgement of Christ’s sacrifice on the cross allow us confident anticipation regarding our “day of judgment.” It won’t be a day when punishment is assigned, but a day when rewards are given or withheld depending on how we’ve used our life for our Lord. As we grow & mature in faith we need not fear God’s evaluation of us. We have already been forgiven...for all time.

*for those who are in Christ Jesus...* Those who are not in Christ are often hostile to God because God’s Spirit is not living in them. That doesn’t describe us! *We* have been made right with God. We are justified - not by our own righteousness, but by Jesus’ righteousness. The Holy Spirit bears witness that we are in a state of justification. The spirit part of us is the real part of us. Jesus has redeemed us for all time, even for sins not yet committed! Jesus bore our condemnation at Calvary & experienced God’s wrath poured out on Him so we wouldn’t have to experience it – what LOVE! Jesus came to save us even from our judgment of ourselves. God cannot punish us for a crime He already punished His Son for on the cross. Jesus paid the price for us, so our sentence has been reversed. His blood set us free! No wonder He said, “It is finished!”

Being “in Christ,” means we have accepted His sacrifice as payment for our own sin. That’s why God no longer sees our imperfections. He sees the righteousness of His own Son. This *union of love* unites us & justifies us with The Father. We’ll never be rejected by God & will never be kicked out of His family. This is because Christ is in us, & we are IN CHRIST. *In the spirit* we are identical to Christ (1 John 4:17, below).

All the wrong we’ve ever done or will do & all the guilt of sin has been transferred to Christ. He removed all our sin with His own blood. Our judgment has come & gone. Unbelievers still have their judgment before them. This should humble us! If we trust Him as Savior, there is no condemnation. If we do not trust Him as Savior, there is condemnation.

## SELAH

### RELATED VERSES

Psalm 32:1-2, Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, & in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Psalm 103:12, As far as the east is from the west, so far He removes our transgressions from us.

Isaiah 54:15, If anyone stirs up strife, it is not from Me; whoever stirs up strife with you shall fall because of you.

\*\*\*John 3:17-18, “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. Those who believe in Him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

\*\*\*John 5:24, “Very truly I tell you, anyone who hears My word & believes Him who sent Me has eternal life, & does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life.”

John 14:23, Jesus answered him, “Those who love Me will keep My word, & My Father will love them, & We will come to them & make Our home with them.

John 19:30, When Jesus had received the wine, He said, “It is finished.” Then He bowed His head & gave up His spirit.

Romans 5:1, Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:10, For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by His life.

Romans 8:5, For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

Romans 8:9a, But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you.

Romans 8:14 & 15b-17, For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God...You have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, & if children, then heirs, heirs of God & joint heirs with Christ – if, in fact, we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

Romans 8:34, Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

Romans 8:38-39, For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, not height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:17, So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.

2 Corinthians 5:21, For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

Galatians 2:20, And it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me & gave Himself for me.

Galatians 3:24, Therefore the law *was* our disciplinarian *until* Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. (Italics added)

Galatians 4:4b-6, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children (joint heirs with Christ). And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

Colossians 3:3-4, For you have died, & your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

Titus 2:11, For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

Hebrews 10:12, But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, “He sat down at the right hand of God.”

1 John 4:17, Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as He is, so are we in this world.

## **SUMMARY**

Do you experience condemning feelings *toward yourself*? Such condemnation is not from God. Let us not reject God’s grace & verdict of “not guilty” by condemning ourselves. What a slap in the face that would be toward our God! Let us humbly accept His grace! We have been reconciled to the Father for all time through the blood of His Son. Jesus bought our peace with God in order for us to be reconciled to Him, live a full life on earth & spend eternity with both of Them. Only “in Christ” is our sin debt canceled, our relationship with God restored & our eternity secured.

Let us share this Good News! Let us offer praise & thanksgiving! Let us live with the assurance of His great love so that, guided by His Spirit, our life will honor Him, glorify Him & draw others to Him. Amen!

*Let this verse be a **LifeLine** for you!  
Let’s Continue Learning!*

**SCRIPTURE IS OUR –**

***LifeLine!***