

Romans 8:1-4

INTRODUCTION: Average Christian like criminal - pardoned but still behind bars.

Has forgiveness but not freedom

Has life but not liberty.

Technically, free, but actually still a prisoner - From time to time tries to walk out, but fails - not strong enough to make it.

He's been saved from his sin but not from himself. He discovers that he is his own worst enemy - too weak to make it and he cries, "Oh to be saved from myself."

That's what Romans 8 is all about - How to end the penal servitude.

God does it for us - all your banging on the bars, trying to squeeze between, attempting to pick the lock are useless - God has the key and He is the one who frees us.

3 illustrations: (1) Poem "O to be saved from myself".

(2) Jerome =

(3) "Thy Holy Spirit, Lord, above
can turn our hearts from sin,
His power alone can sanctify
and keep us pure within."

Verse 2 - me - Paul tells how he himself was delivered.

N O W - In heaven, sure, but NOW!! No penal servitude NOW.
The Sweet Here and Now.

God does it through two stages -- first through the

DEATH OF THE INCARNATE SON

I. SON

Christ came to do for us what we couldn't do for ourselves - became what we were, so we could become what He is.

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II Cor. 5:21

Through His suffering

The Son saves us from the penalty of sin.

Through His Spirit from the power of sin.

1. His Humiliation - "made in likeness of sinful flesh." - Incarnation

(1) Real flesh

(2) Without sin

2. His Crucifixion - "and for () Sin" - God condemned all sin in the flesh of Jesus

2 Cor. 5:11 - Gal. 3:13

- No condemnation because God's condemnation of sin was spent, exhausted on Jesus.

- In Christ - phrase occurs twice.

Illustration: Of trying to fly but force of gravity holds one down - when I'm "in the plane" I rise above the clouds.

III. Jerome

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