

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
CHAPEL

 **ALLIANCE** BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Questions for Panel Discussion

- sandrews@abfboone.org
- jklashell@gmail.com



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Romans 8

- Spirit is mentioned 19 times in Romans 8.
- Spirit is mentioned 15 times in verses 1-17.

Romans 8:5-14

⁵ For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

⁶ For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,

⁷ because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so*,

⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Romans 8:5-14

⁹ However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

¹⁰ If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

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

Romans 8:5-14

¹² So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—

¹³ for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

In the Flesh	In the Spirit
Walk according to the flesh (4)	Walk according to the Spirit (4)
Mind set on the flesh (5)	Mind set on the Spirit (5)
Mind set on the flesh is death (6)	Mind set on the Spirit is life (6)
Hostile toward God (7)	[Peace with God] (by implication, 5:1)
Not subject to the law of God (7)	Requirement of the Law fulfilled in us (4)
Unable to be subject to the law of God (7)	Requirement of the Law fulfilled in us (4)

In the Flesh	In the Spirit
Cannot please God (8)	[Pleasing to God] (by implication)
Spirit of God/Christ does not dwell within (9)	Spirit of God/Christ dwells within (9)
Does not belong to Christ (9)	Belongs to Christ (9)
Body and spirit is dead (10)	Body is dead, spirit is alive (10)
Mortal body remains dead (11)	Mortal body to be made alive (11)
Under obligation to the flesh (12)	[Under obligation to the Spirit]
You must die eternally (13)	You will live eternally (13)
[Led by the flesh, not children of God] (implied)	Led by the Spirit, children of God (14)

Romans 8:12-14

¹² So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—

¹³ for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God.

Colossians 3:5

⁵ Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to...
(NASB)

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you... (ESV)

Some Questions

- Who puts the flesh to death? Me, or the Spirit?
- How long do we put the flesh to death? Is it a one-time thing, like the baptism of the Spirit, or an ongoing thing, like the filling of the Spirit?
- When do we finish that work? (When do we finally kill the flesh?)

The Mortification of the Flesh

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“We teach this about the putting to death [mortification] of the flesh and discipline of the body. A true and not a false putting to death happens through the cross and troubles, by which God exercises us. . . . There is also a necessary voluntary exercise. . . . This effort [at mortification] should be constant.”

Lutheran Confession

What is Sanctification?

“The work of God’s free grace whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.”

The Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question 35

“That gracious operation of the Holy Spirit, involving our responsible participation, by which He delivers us from the pollution of sin, renews our entire nature according to the image of God, and enables us to live lives that are pleasing to him.”

Anthony A. Hoekema (1913-1988), *Saved by Grace*

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Colossians 3:5

⁵ Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to...
(NASB)

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you... (ESV)

Galatians 5:17

¹⁷ For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another...

Galatians 5:22-25

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.

²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

Colossians 3:10-17

¹⁰ and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him--

¹¹ *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

¹² So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;

¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

Colossians 3:10-17

¹⁴ Beyond all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

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