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The Spiritual Battle

7:14 to 8:39



Understanding the conflict in personal **sanctification** involves seeing the relationship between the believer and his indwelling sin. In relating his personal experience in **7:14-15**, **Paul** switches to the present tense here, whereas before **he** used the past tense. Obviously, **he** was describing **his** present conflict as a believer with indwelling **sin** and its continuing efforts to control **his** daily life. But at the same time, **he** describes the spiritual battle of every believer. When a person comes to trust **Yeshua** as his personal **Lord** and **Savior**, he surrenders to **Him** all of himself that he can. But as he grows in his faith, he finds previously hidden portions of himself, areas of **sin** he was formerly unaware of, which he must then surrender as well. Preceding each such surrender is a “**Romans 7** experience,” and it takes place only when he is willing to move into **Romans 8** with respect to that part of his life.¹⁸⁴

The great triumph of the believer’s faith is total deliverance from **condemnation**. **Paul** does not say that there is nothing in us that deserves **condemnation**, because there is, but the truth of the gospel is that **Messiah Yeshua** has released us from **condemnation**. The believer has been granted perfect righteousness and lives according to **the Torah of the Spirit**, which is **the Torah of God**. We are not only forgiven; we have received **the Ruach Ha’Kodesh** into our very bodies (**First Corinthians 6:19-20**). **He** is our source of divine power to bring our necessary **sanctification**, to be set apart, specifically, to the **holy** use and purposes of **God**. **Romans 8** is where **Paul** gathers various strands of thought, starting with the gospel in **Romans 1**. Here, **he** links **justification** with sanctification.¹⁸⁴



Paul teaches about our salvation in three phases: the past, or **justification** (**to see link click [Ax](#) - The Universal Solution: Justification**); the present, or **sanctification**, here; and the future, or **glorification** (see **[Cj](#) - The Completed Redemption**).