

INTRODUCTION - ROMANS 8:1-17

The eighth chapter of Romans has long been considered Paul's *magnum opus*, his *pièce de résistance*, his greatest work. With this chapter, Paul digs deeply into the hope of the Gospel, pulling out of this hope helpful observations, explanations, illustrations, and applications to encourage believers to persevere. In the first seventeen verses of the chapter are explicit references to major themes of Christian doctrine and their implications for Christian praxis.

As we enjoy the view of God's glorious landscape that this chapter provides, we may find ourselves taken by the weightiness of doctrine. That is okay and it is right. For, as Paul's writing lays out, it is the weight of doctrine that enables us to rightly enjoy the beauty of God's grace toward us. Let's enjoy the view, be awed by doctrine, and give glory to God!

Keep up: complete N.T. Wright, *Romans: 18 Studies for Individuals and Groups*, p 46-49.

Why, how, and what to do with new life.

Romans 8:1-4 → The outline of justification.

- Remember, justification is _____.
- Justification is an act of God.
- Justification is accomplished through Jesus' work on Calvary to redeem us from sin.
- Justification is a manner of life and living sustained when we yield to the Holy Spirit.
- Result of justification: No condemnation for those who have been redeemed.

Romans 8:5-11 → The opportunity of sanctification.

- Remember, sanctification is _____.
- Sanctification is a product of the Holy Spirit's enabling power.
- The process of sanctification requires human determination to take on Spirit-led lives.
- The process of sanctification requires human mindfulness of God's way.
- Sign of sanctification: A desire to forsake carnality and embrace Christlikeness.

Romans 8:12-17 → The outcome of regeneration.

- Remember, regeneration is _____.
- Regeneration reorients believers from flesh-satisfying desires to God-honoring witness.
- Regeneration provides a new identity.
- Regeneration promises a new inheritance.
- Outcome of regeneration: Ultimate glorification with Christ Jesus our Lord.
