BOOK OF ROMANS MAINLY FOR GENTILES ?

THEOLOGY

- Paul's choice of Jewish idioms, cultural norms, rabbinical debate, & words of Rom. 7:1 say he is aiming mostly at Jews
- Romans 8:1 is Paul's conclusions based on what he has said up to now
- Paul didn't write in chapters; chapter not added until 11 centuries later

LOOKING UNDER THE SURFACE OF ROMANS



Paul used Abraham, father of the Hebrews, as foundational

Romans 3:1 – 4 "Does their faithlessness cancel God's faithfulness?"

Faithful to what? To God's covenants with Israel

God's covenants are what make Israel, Israel

Matt. 15:24 "He said, I was ONLY sent to the lost sheep of ...Israel"

Matt. 10 Disciples to go ONLY to Israelites

ROMANS 11 GENTILES GRAFTED IN

WHAT ARE YOU GRAFTED INTO?

Ezekiel 37:15-28 Romans 11:16-22 Galatians 3:29

> The Trunk The Fathers of our Faith Saac Jacob/Israel

> > Revelation 22:16

If Yeshua is Israel's Messiah, then what is the basis for gentiles to be included?

The Root

I) Trust in Yeshua makes gentiles spiritual seed of Abraham

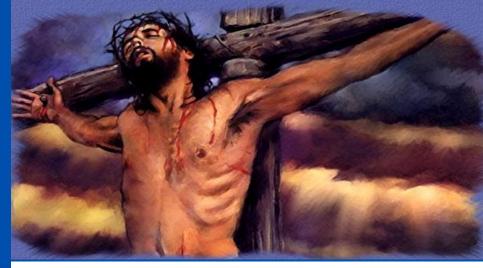
 > 2) Gentiles divinely grafted into Israel's covenants
> In Romans 7 & 8 (especially) Paul is addressing Believers, but on a secondary level he is addressing all Israel

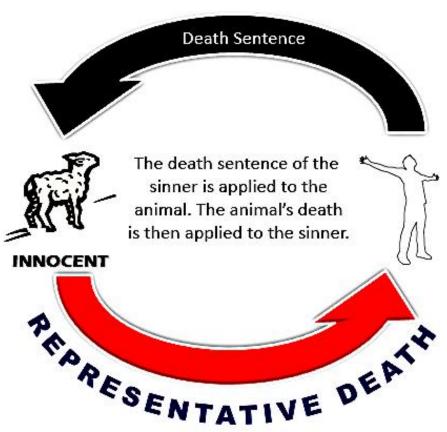
ROMANS CHAPTER 8

- The word "spirit" is used 21 times in chapter 8
- The word "law" was front and center in chapters 1 – 7
- Indwelling of the Spirit marks a person as having been "righteoused" (justified)
- Vs. 2 "law" of spirit, "law" of sin and death. "Law" more means principle
- Vs. 3 Torah (Law) does not have the "power" to change human nature because it was not designed to do so
- God's Son Yeshua DID have the "power" to change human nature



- Yeshua had Power of the Spirit, but ALSO had a flawed human nature
- He had to....since the flawed human nature had to be executed on the cross
- Same principle/pattern as the Levitical sacrificial system
- We are not fully, yet, set free from sinning....it is a process
- But we ARE set free from the <u>consequences</u> of sin.. which is eternal death!
- Through the Spirit we now have a means to fight against sin and our evil inclination
- > 1John 4:4





OUR PRESENT STATE



- Our spirits have eternal life...and yet our flesh still sins
- Paul's approach to this problem is in Rom. 6:11 "..consider yourselves dead to sin..."
- Fake it 'til you feel it
- Do the right thing until your inner self WANTS to do right
- Really a matter of "dying to self"

Perseverance MUST be part of our lives!

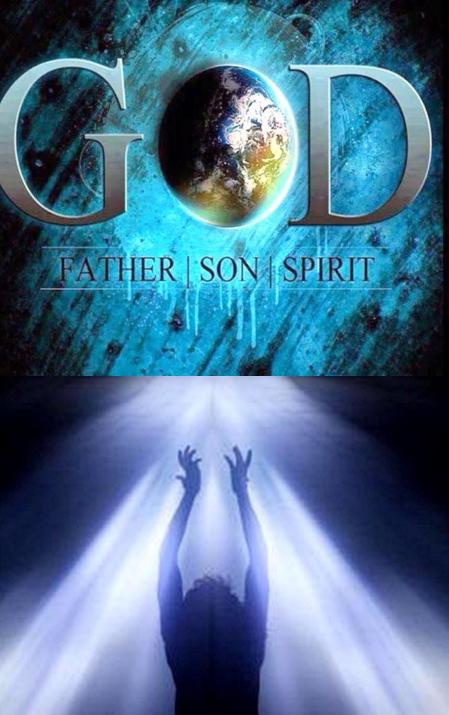


IT'S A PROCESS

Not a self-help program!

- The Law has revealed our sin; the Spirit gives us the Power to fight against it 1Cor. 15:16 – 19
- Paul is right: if our eternal future is no better than this current life, then we ARE to be pitied
- Holy Spirit is given to guide, instruct, comfort, forgive, give us hope and perseverance and mercy

We CAN live lives full of joy and hope with Christ Paul equates Holy Spirit with Spirit of Messiah and with Spirit of God Father (Spirit of God) > Son (Spirit of Messiah) Holy Spirit > Vs. 9 only for Believers Doctrine: If we don't have the Holy Spirit, then we don't identify with Messiah Sin and death are a fused pair; identity with Christ and indwelling of the Spirit are also a fused pair



- Same Spirit that rose Yeshua will rise Believers from the grave!
- > Vs.12 is a summation
- Speaks of our relationship to our old nature in terms of "debt"
- Vs. 14 Anyone led by God's Spirit is a Son to Him
- A Son is more valued than a servant
- Servant of God is a high status
- A Son of God is an even higher status !

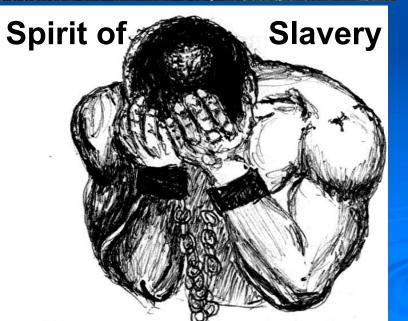
IT IS FINISHED

AT THE

END OF

DAYS

The Spiritof Adoption



 God's Spirit does NOT work by coercion by instilling fear
Spirit of Slavery can only work by using fear

God's Spirit works like an adoption; the son responds in love to the father's love

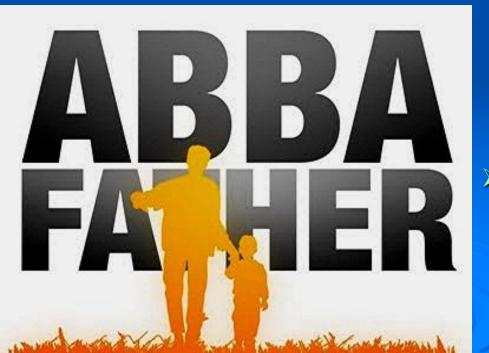
Abba is a term of endearment

A son inherits from his father; a servant doesn't inherit from his master

As children of God we are therefore heirs to His kingdom: the Kingdom of God

Jeremiah 31

THE LAW



C.E.B. Cranfield: "....the life which is characterized by the Spirit....is a life in which God's Law is established...a life characterized by hope..."

- Jeremiah 31:30 33
- The death sentence of the Law was ended by Christ....all that remains in the laws themselves
- If we ask: "Why, then, should we obey The Law if we no longer face the death sentence?" Then we have the spirit of a servant and not the spirit of a son
- As sons, our obedience to The Law is like the Spirit of Adoption...it comes from love and gratitude to our loving Father