

Riches from Romans

Contributed by Rev. Ken Pounders
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Wow! Romans 8

is a rich chapter. In fact the entire book of Romans is rich, showing us clearly the freedom and life we have because of the justification (just as if I had never sinned) that Christ has accomplished for us. We are free from the bondage of sin and from slavery to our flesh, and from the fear of death (and condemnation).

Well, this whole chapter is a bit much for one day, so let's meditate on three verses from the chapter.

Romans 8:11 "But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwells in you."

When

we came to Jesus in faith we were "born of the Spirit" and He began to dwell in us. Now there are greater depths of the Spirit we encounter in our walk with Him, but that "indwelling" of the Spirit makes life, power, and victory ours on a daily basis. Remember, this is the SAME Spirit that raised Jesus from the grave. He has more than enough power to quicken (give life to, instead of death) our bodies even in the face of strong temptation.

Romans 8:14 "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

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think about this verse all the time! The essence of the Christian life is to be led (directed, moved, motivated) by the Spirit. We have to hear His voice in this hour we live in. We must live in His power to live in victory. The ones who are led by the Spirit are the sons (and daughters) of God. So it is a must (not an option) that we be led by His Spirit if we are going to become mature sons and daughters of the King. He wants us to transact business in His name down here but we must walk in maturity to do that.

Romans 8:37 "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

Paul was almost exploding with excitement at this point. So much so that he coined a new Greek word. Actually, he stuck two Greek words together for the first time. The word is hupernikao. It comes from "huper" and "nikao" or Nike. Nikao means decisive victory but Paul had more to express so he added "huper". It means "over and above" or "way beyond". So, we are the ones who vanquish the enemy! We leave Him in the dust. We are called to completely and utterly destroy his influence and power. Not in our ability but through Him who loves us and puts His Spirit in us! One day I was reading this verse and I said to the Lord (with a bit of discouragement) "I don't feel like more than a conqueror" and He spoke to me and said "I didn't say you would feel like more than a conqueror,

I said YOU ARE more than a conqueror!" So let's be who we are now in Christ, not who we were in the past.