

# THE STRENGTH OF ROMANS 8

One of the most encouraging chapters in the New Testament is arguably Romans 8. In this chapter, the Apostle Paul passionately displays the kind of confidence the Christian should have. This week, let's look to Romans 8 for strength. To help us, here are four simple lessons to learn from this important grouping of 39 verses.

## 1. Two Options for "Human-Mindsets" Exist

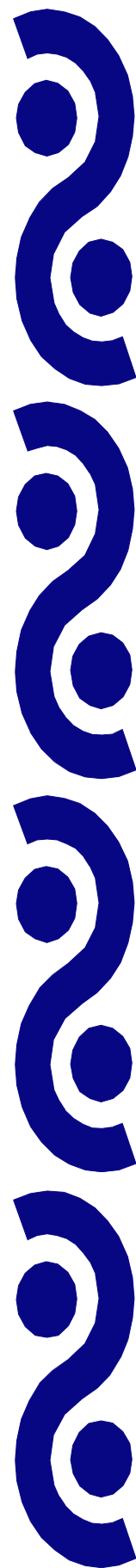
Think about the kind of priority you want to set – to serve your own desires and wishes, or to serve the Creator. Without a doubt, doing the first may produce earthly happiness. Yet, a sincere dedication to setting one's mind on Godly things will produce eternal bliss. Paul writes, "to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life" (Romans 8:6). If you are more concerned about the affairs of this world, you cannot be pleasing to God. As you think about this new week, consider thinking more on God and His will.

## 2. The Christian's Persecutions are Worth It

Christ never taught that living according to His will would be easy or without difficulties. Being a Christian is NOT easy! No matter what difficulties and persecutions we face, all of our troubles combined won't compare to the glory of Heaven. Paul writes, "the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18). When the difficulties of this life occur this week – remember that, in the end, doing as God commands WILL be worth it!

## 3. The Benefits of the Holy Spirit

Often underestimated is the power of the Holy Spirit. Yet, this great chapter of the Roman letter proves how we should really appreciate the magnitude of God's love in providing Him as our Helper. Paul writes, "the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us" (Romans 8:26).



Certainly, we have each been so overwhelmed with "life" that we are ready to give up. Yet, when we are uncertain and facing life's difficulties, the Holy Spirit is speaking on our behalf.

#### 4. The Power of God's Love

The Bible tells us that, "God is love" (I John 4:16). God's love is so great, that He has made it that, no matter what comes our way, He will stand with us. In fact, nothing "shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39). As you begin the new week, think about God's magnificent love and that, if we continue to keep his commandments, we might be counted as worthy servants of His. Yes Indeed, God is More than We'll EVER hope to be...

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