

The Spirit Living In You - Part 2

Romans 8:5-17

Intro Question - Can a person live in the Flesh and still be a Christian?

Scriptures that deal with Salvation - Romans 10:9 and Acts 2:38

Sinful Nature vs. Spirit Controlled – Romans 8:5-8

A person controlled by their Sinful Nature

- Mind is set on what their nature desires.
- Their mind leads to Death. (destruction)
- They are hostile to God.
- Does not Submit to God
- Cannot please God (Due to their rebellion)

Summary - Moral decisions dictate intellectual reasons. The way they act, determines what they believe.

A person controlled by the Spirit

- Mind is focused on what the spirit desires
- Mind leads to life and peace

To place oneself under the control of the spirit. To focus their interests on the things of the Spirit.

All Christians are Controlled by the Spirit – Romans 8:9-11

- NIV “if” would be better interpreted “since.” (Concern that some believe that a Christian has not yet received the spirit.)
- If you do not have the Spirit, you are not a Christian.
- Conversion is required. (Methods can be different and experiences can be different, but at some point you make a decision to repent and call Jesus Lord of your life.)
- The Spirit provides our Guarantee. (Sales slip)

There is no such thing as a Carnal Christian. You either are a Christian or you are not.

Our level of Maturity as a Christian is based on the level we allow the Spirit to control our lives and on our ability to focus on the spirit. (ex. dimmer switch for lights)

You will either Die or Live – Romans 8:12-17

- Identity is not a slave to Sin, but an adopted child and heir of God.
- Photograph vs video of our life. The video will show our progress, while the photograph will show our failure.

What are some problems with the phrase, "Once saved always saved."

- Can turn into Fire insurance. Conversion experience without following Christ is not salvation.
- The problem of a person who seemed to be a Christian who no longer believes in God.

The important Questions:

Can sin cause you to lose your salvation? NO

Are you a follower of God? (Believe in your heart and confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord) If no, then you are not saved.

Questions to Consider

1. What can cause you or others to doubt their salvation? How do you know if "YOU" are saved?
2. What scriptures would you use to describe faith and salvation?
3. Why does the question of whether we are born good or born with a sinful nature matter in our Christian theology?
4. Can a Christian have the Spirit in them, but still be focused on the flesh and controlled by the flesh? Explain.
5. How would you describe people who believe that Jesus is their savior and their lord, but do not seem to be controlled by the spirit?
6. What scriptures would you use to justify "Once Saved, Always Saved."

