

Sin cannot condemn you

For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man. (Romans 8:3)

Sin cannot condemn us. There is no condemnation of those who are in Christ Jesus, because Christ condemned the sin, not the sinner. By Christ's work on the cross, he judged sin. He paid the penalty for sin. He released us from the condemnation of sin, by his death. Jesus did what we could not do. It says here, "For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did."

The Law was designed to draw us into a place of righteous living before God. The Law was not weak, our human nature was weak. The Law was powerless only insofar as we could not keep the Law. The Law as a standard of good, upright living, was a failure because we failed to keep the Law.

Jesus came as a man to be victorious over sin. He was sinless. Yet the sinless life of Christ was not enough to set us free. He had to go to the cross so that we could enter into his life. Without the sacrificial death of Christ on the cross, sin would not be condemned, **we** would be condemned. But Jesus was judged instead of us. Because he was judged for our sins, we now are free.

This is wonderful, great news! Not only did Jesus bear every sin we have ever committed, but Jesus bore every sin we shall ever commit. When Jesus died on the cross, the sins of humanity were judged there. All sins, past, present, and future, have been judged. The penalty has been paid. And we enter into freedom as we begin to understand it and walk in it by the Spirit.

God tells us that we need to get right with him, but he does not condemn us. When you sin and go to God, there is no condemnation, no rejection. When we humbly come to Christ, confessing our sin and willing to change our ways, he forgives and cleanses us from all sin. God does not get angry with us when we fall anymore. We are still learning. None of us has arrived. God loves us. There is no rejection, because God's love is not based on our performance.

The biggest mistake I can make is to say to God, 'Lord, if I change, will you love me?' The Lord's reply is always, 'You have it all wrong. You don't have to change so that I will love you; I love you so that you will change.' God loves me so much that he changes me into the child that he wants me to be. Remember, sin cannot condemn you anymore. Jesus has set you free from condemnation!