

1463.

Great Chapters of the Bible.
Rom: viii.

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ROMANS VIII.

INTRODUCTION.

It is a commonplace of exposition to say that the boundaries of this chapter are; "No Condemnation", "No Separation."

The commonplace is not necessarily false, and in this case it is profoundly true.

The chapter constitutes the climax to the constructive arguments of the Apostle.

Its initial "Therefore" links it to what has preceded it.

The whole letter is pre-eminently the supreme document of Salvation, the Exposition of the Gospel.

At its forefront the Gospel is described as the Power of God unto Salvation.

"I am - subtle - ready - not ashamed" - -

The need for Salvation is clearly set out in an examination of human unrighteousness.

~ ~ ~ ~ RIGHTEOUSNESS ~ ~ ~ ~
The whole Race is seen involved in moral failure and misery. *"Guiltily before God" - - -*

The way of Salvation is that of faith in a Divine Provision of Grace.

That provision is such that God can be just and the Justifier of such as believe.

(1)

This great Salvation has three elements.

The first has to do with the past.

Justification. 3²-5

The second with the present.

Sanctification. 6-8⁷

The third with the future.

Glorification. 8¹⁸⁻³⁹

In this chapter then, those who by faith are justified, are seen, in the experience of Sanctification, facing the certainty of Glorification.

Let us then Consider.

- A. The Experience of Sanctification 1-17
- B. The Process to Glorification 18-30.
- C. The Consequent Outlook 31-39.

(2)

A. THE EXPERIENCE OF SANCTIFICATION. 1-17.

I. The Fact proclaimed.
State. "No Condemnation".

Sphere. "In Christ." *Rom. v. 9.*

"Reconciled to God through Death -- Seated in His Eye."

II. The Explanation.

i. The new Law. The Spirit of Life.

ii. The new Life. Walk after the Spirit.

iii. The new Mind. Of the Spirit.

III. The Obligation.

Debtors. To live--led of the Spirit.

B. THE PROCESS TO GLORIFICATION. 18-30.

I. Introductory Declaration.

Present Suffering and ultimate Glory
incomparable.

II. The Process in fellowship with Creation.

i. Creation. Waiting.
Hoping.
Groaning.

ii. The Saints. Groaning.
Waiting.
Hoping.

III. The Process in fellowship with God.

i. The Spirit's Activity.

Making Intercession with Groanings.

ii. The Saints' Assurance.

"All things work together..."

C. THE CONSEQUENT OUTLOOK. 31-39.

I. The Challenging Question.

"What then shall we say to these things?"

II. The Answering Questions.

i. "Who is against us?"

God..spared not His Son...

ii. "Who shall lay anything to the Charge of God's Elect?"

God..justifieth.

iii. "Who is he that condemneth?"

Christ died..was raised..is at right hand of God..maketh intercession."

iv. "Who shall separate us?"

a. Suppositions. More than Conquerors.

b. Persuasion. Its vast Inclusiveness.