

Life and Death, Here and Now

Romans 8:5-11

March 13, 2022

Two groups of people:

Those whose spirits are alive (who are in the Spirit) & Those who are spiritually dead (in the flesh)

Notice the trinity:

v. 9 - "The Spirit of God..." "The Spirit of Christ..."

v. 10 - "Christ is in you..."

v. 11 - "the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead... He who raised Jesus from the dead... His Spirit who dwells in you."

Those whose spirits are alive

Are not in the flesh / controlled by [their] sinful nature (v. 9)

By implication: **Those who are spiritually dead (in the flesh)** are... controlled by [their] sinful nature (v. 9 NLT)

Those whose spirits are alive

Are controlled by the Spirit (v. 9 NLT)

By implication: **Those who are spiritually dead (in the flesh)** Are [not] controlled by the Spirit (v. 9)

v. 7 - *The mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. (NLT - The sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will.)*

John 14:15, 21, 23, 24 -

v. 15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

v. 21 - "Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me...."

v. 23 - Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word...."

v. 24 - "Whoever does not love me does not keep my words...."

John 3:19-21

Those whose spirits are alive

Have the Spirit of God living in [them] (vv. 9, 11)

Those who are spiritually dead (in the flesh) do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them (v. 9)

Ephesians 1:13-14

Those whose spirits are alive

Their spirits live even though your body will die. (v. 10 NLT - "Even though your body will die because of sin, your spirit is alive.")

By implication: **Those who are spiritually dead**, their spirits are dead even as their bodies live... and will, one day know eternal death...

Revelation 20:12-15

"Born once, die twice... born twice, die once..."

Those whose spirits are alive

Have been made right with God (v. 10 NLT)

By implication: **Those who are spiritually dead** are not right with God (v. 10 NLT).

Those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all (v. 9 NLT)

Our root problem: alienation from God

Those whose spirits are alive

Will receive life [in] our mortal bodies (v. 11 ESV)

By implication: **Those who are spiritually dead** will not receive life in their bodies

The hope of physical resurrection:

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

(Revelation 20:12-15)

A Truth to Remember: You are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (Romans 8:9 NLT)

A Challenge to Consider: Is the desire of your heart to be controlled by the Spirit of God? Is this desire reflected in your daily priorities?

One thing I heard this morning was...

One way I heard the gospel this morning was...