

The Spirit and the Flesh

Lesson Nine; Romans 8:

Spirit: Neshmah (immortal spirit)

Soul: Nefesh (life, person, vitality)

Flesh: Basar v'Dam/ Guf (body)

The Spirit: Ruach HaKodesh (God's Spirit)

What the Torah Could Not Accomplish

Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation *[in the eternal judgment]* for those who are *[baptized into and included as disciples]* in Christ Jesus.

² For the law of the Spirit of life *[which transforms your inner nature to keep the Torah]* has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and *[as an atonement]* for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,

⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us *[both Jews and Gentiles]*, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit *[of God]*.

Flesh and Spirit

⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the *[material and physical desires and]* things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is *[ultimately going to result in]* death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is *[eternal]* life and peace.

Pleasing God

⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You *[Jewish and Gentile believers]*, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

The Resurrection

¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the *[literal physical]* body is dead because of sin, the Spirit *[i.e. Neshamah]* is life because of righteousness.

¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors *[to the Spirit]*, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.

¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Spirit of Adoption of Sons

¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

¹⁶ The Spirit *[of God]* himself bears witness with our spirit *[i.e. the Neshamah]* that we are children of God,

¹⁷ and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him *[in the flesh]* in order that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ For I consider that the *[physical and emotional]* sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us *[at the time of the redemption and the resurrection]*.

All Creation Groans

¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God *[i.e., the resurrected righteous]*. (cf. Rom. 1:1-4)

²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him *[i.e. HaShem]* who subjected it, in hope

²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption *[in the form of decay and death and transience]* and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God *[in the form of permanence and the solidity of the world to come]*.

Time of Pregnancy

²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth *[from the time of Adam's sin]* until now.

²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit *[of God]*, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for *[the resurrection which will signify our]* adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

Hope for the Resurrection

²⁴ For in this hope *[of the resurrection]* we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?

²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Spirit's Intercession

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit *[of God]* helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit *[of God]* himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. (Cf. Proverbs 20:27)