

# Fighting the Battle Within

ROMANS 8:12-13

**Title: Putting Sin to Death to  
Enter into Life**

**Text: Romans 8:12-13**

**Date: January 19, 2025**

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## **Introduction:**

- **Answer 1:**
- **Answer 2:**

## **Newness of Life Despite the Struggle with Sin:**

- 1. Believers are \_\_\_\_\_ from the penalty of sin through Christ Jesus even though we still struggle with present sin in our lives.**

Romans 8:1–4 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, so that the righteous requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

- 2. Those who walk according to the Spirit and those who walk according to the flesh \_\_\_\_\_ in mind, ability, and focus.**

Romans 8:5–8 For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, because the mind set on the flesh is at enmity toward God, for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh are not able to please God.

- 3. Believers have the Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ in them which produces a new life that shows itself by righteousness and has the promise of future heavenly perfection.**

Romans 8:9–11 However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. But 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.

### **Paul's Conclusion on the Believer's New Life:**

- 1. The believer's \_\_\_\_\_: to live for God by the Spirit, not the flesh (v.12).**

Romans 8:12 So then, brothers, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—

“brothers” – believers

“we are under obligation” – debtors or owing to another.

Believers are obligated to live according to the deposit of grace in their lives: the Holy Spirit.

“not to the flesh” – not to our fallen, carnal nature/members.

“to be governed by it [the flesh] in all our deliberations and pursuits.” – Charles Simeon

Those in Christ Jesus are not bound to the flesh, indebted to its rule, or owing to its authority which means no sin is invincible or unconquerable, but are obligated to live by the

\_\_\_\_\_.

**2. The believer’s \_\_\_\_\_: killing sin by the Holy Spirit because sin deserves death (v.13).**

Romans 8:13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die, but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the practices of the body, you will live.

“living according to the flesh” – same focus in mind as v.12.

“you must die” – continuous state of eternal death.

“but if by the Spirit” –

“you are putting to death” – a repetitive action of slaying, ending, and mortifying.

To mortify our corrupt nature ought to be the continual aim of our lives. – Charles Simeon

“the practices of the body” – to works and deeds of the sinful carried out by the body.

Result: “you will live” – future tense; referencing eternal life.

Hebrews 12:14 Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord...

The gracious gift of God’s salvation that guarantees eternal life and gives new spiritual life \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit empowered, sin killing habits that receive the eternal life promised in Jesus.

### **Four Sin Killing Actions:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the promptings and leading of the Spirit from within.

Romans 8:14 For as many as are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

Galatians 5:18 But if you are led by the Spirit...

**2. Use \_\_\_\_\_ to destroy sins promise of inferior pleasure and highlight God's superior joy.**

Psalm 119:11 Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You.

“treasured” – stored up, hidden because of perceived value.

“in my heart” – my inner being where affections are.

Psalm 16:11 You will make known to me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; in Your right hand there are pleasures forever.

**3. Go to \_\_\_\_\_ ends to remove the places where sin spawns and occurs regularly.**

Matthew 18:8–9 “And if your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; it is better for you to enter life crippled or lame, than, having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out and throw it from you. It is better for you to enter life with one eye, than, having two eyes, to be cast into the fiery hell.”

“No action is too drastic in dealing with sin; no price is too great in turning from sin.” – John MacArthur.

**4. Set your mind on the things \_\_\_\_\_, leading to considering as the things on earth as dead.**

Colossians 3:2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

Imperative: “Set your mind” – be intent on, think upon.

“above” – things from heaven, Him in heaven, and that which heaven approves of.

“not on the things that are on earth” – the ideas, passions of this fallen world.

Colossians 3:5 Therefore, consider the members of your earthly body as dead to sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry.

**Applications:**

**Let's get real about our sin and let's get \_\_\_\_\_ about killing sin.**

## **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. Have you worked this past week on being real with other believers about the struggle with sin? What has been your experience and takeaways?**
- 2. Of the “Four Sin Killing Actions,” which one has helped you kill sin in the past and why? Is there any action(s) that have been absent from your walk or is particularly difficult for you to practice?**
- 3. Read Romans 8:13. Explain what Paul means that “if by the Holy Spirit you are putting to death the practices of the body, you will live?” How is this not salvation by works?**
- 4. Why does Paul think that believers are “under obligation” because of the reality that the Spirit dwells within us? Do you instinctually view this as positive or negative?**
- 5. In light of last week’s sermon from Romans 7 and this week’s from Romans 8, open up with your group about a sin you struggled with last week and how you plan to put it to death this week.**

**Blanks: free, differ, dwelling, obligation, Spirit, practice, produces, Obey, Scripture, extreme, above, serious.**

