

An old man who was hard of hearing visits a doctor..

...and is complaining of chest pains. The doctor tells him what to do and sends him on his way. A few weeks go by, and the doctor sees the old man walking through the park holding hands with a young, beautiful woman and is just nothing but smiles. The doctor approaches the old man and says, "Well, you look much better than the last time I saw you." The old man say, "Well, I took your advice. You told me to get a hot mama and be cheerful!" The doctor shakes his head and says, "No, I told you, 'You have a heart murmur, be careful!'"

What is it you are hearing?

John 10:27-30

27. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

28. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

29. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

30. I and the Father are one."

I AM A CHRISTIAN

I. STAY THE COURSE

1 Chronicles 16:11 AMP Seek the Lord and His strength; yearn for and seek His face and to be in His presence continually!

• Persevere - continued pursuit or prosecution of (Websters)

A. In Prayer - Ephesians 6:18 CEV Never stop praying, especially for others. Always pray by the power of the Spirit. Stay alert and keep praying for God's people.

B. In Well-Doing - Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

C. In the Gospel

Colossians 1:21-23 ESV

21. And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,

22. he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,

23. if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

[Romans 8:1-4](#)

NO CONDEMNATION

I. THE PHENOMENAL REALITY - 'THERE IS NOW NO CONDEMNATION'

v.1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,

1. The Perfection of Justification

No Condemnation - The unsaved are condemned already (John 3:18 whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son).

2. THE PRESENT TENSE OF JUSTIFICATION

Now no condemnation

3. The Provider of Justification

now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus

II. THE PERFECT REASON -

v.2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

1. THE REASON – A SUPERIOR LAW

The Law of sin and death – the old life centred in self.

The law of the Spirit of life – the new life in Christ Jesus

2. THE RESULT – SET FREE

The 'Old Law' has no claim on us – we are set free

Free – not to please ourselves, but

Free to respond to the new Law – The Law of Life.

(See Romans 6:16 Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey— whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey— whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?)

III. THE PRINCIPAL ROOT

v.3 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,

1. THE INABILITY OF SELF

The sinful nature is weak, constantly breaking the old law

2. THE PLAN OF GOD

Sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful man – made like us!

3. THE TRANSFER OF CONDEMNATION

To be a sin offering

Sin reigned in our flesh – condemnation, but Sin condemned through Christ's flesh i.e. by His perfect life and atoning death.

IV. THE PRACTICAL RESOLUTION

v.4 And so he condemned sin in sinful man, 4 in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

1. RIGHTEOUSNESS FULFILLED

God's intention is for us to live righteous lives. (who do not live according to the sinful nature).

Romans 6:13-14 13 Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. 14 For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

2. WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

but according to the Spirit.

No longer walking after the ways of the old nature, but now walking according to the Spirit – through our union with Christ! There is now a greater power in our lives, it is the Holy Spirit who will control our sinful nature by bringing life and power and deliverance through the life of Christ in us.

II. HOW DO WE STAY THE COURSE?

A. By having confidence in God's work in and through us! - Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

B. Come into the revelation of our position in Christ! **WE ARE IN GOD'S HAND!**

John 10:27-30 NIV

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C. Walk in Covenant with God! - Jeremiah 32:40 I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts, that they may not turn from me.

D. Stay in Faith!

1 Peter 1:3-7

3. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4. To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

5. Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

6. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

7. That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

E. Stay Faithful - Hebrews 3:1-6, 14

1. (V2) Moses was faithful

2. (V6) Jesus was faithful

3. (14) We should be faithful... “hold our original confidence firm to the end.”

III. STAY FOCUSED

A. On The Cross - 1 Corinthians 1:17-18 For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. 18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

B. On The Word

1. The Word is your instruction manual to navigate to course of life. (Teach it to your kids)

2. The Word is your Weapon against the enemy. You are not defenseless against the enemy that wars against you and your family. **YOU JUST HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO USE YOUR WEAPON!**

Hebrews 4:12-13

12. For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart.

13. And not a creature exists that is concealed from His sight, but all things are open and exposed, naked and defenseless to the eyes of Him with Whom we have to do.

C. On YOUR FAMILY (It's Your Family...)

1. Pray over them - OUT LOUD!

2. Proclaim blessings over them every day! Life and death are in the power of your tongue. As the Dad, you stand in the position of authority, covering, protection and provision over their lives.

3. Play with them and you will... Produce fruit for the Kingdom with them!