

Chapter 8

Paul continues his teaching with the word “therefore” in Romans 8:1, which indicates that he is making a conclusion based on what he has finished saying. However, Romans 7:25 (the verse immediately preceding) does not seem to be the thought that he is continuing. Explain why it is better understood that Paul is continuing what he began in Romans 7:6 instead:

In order to describe what it means for believers to serve in newness of the Spirit, Paul spends a considerable number of passages to describe what it means to walk according to the Spirit rather than the flesh. We learn that sanctification (growing in holiness and Christlikeness) occurs by the power of the Holy Spirit at work in the life of the believer. Match the following descriptions of the Holy Spirit’s work with the passage in Romans 8 that each description summarizes:

- Focuses our mind*
- Frees us from sin*
- Finalizes our inheritance*
- Fortifies our strength*
- Facilitates our adoption*
- Fills us with life*

Romans 8:1-5 _____

Romans 8:6-8 _____

Romans 8:9-11 _____

Romans 8:12-13 _____

Romans 8:14-15 _____

Romans 8:16-17 _____

The doctrine of Total Depravity describes the truth that all men are born guilty and sinful to such an extent that their mind, will, emotions, desires, speech, and actions are all enslaved to the corrupting influence of sin, rendering them spiritually dead and helpless (cf. Eph. 2:1-2). Until the Holy Spirit causes a man to be born again, he will remain in this condition and never believe the Gospel. In describing the person who has been given life by the Spirit (the believer), Paul makes several contrasts with the person who lives according to the flesh (the unbeliever). Fill in the blanks below that give an even greater description of the total depravity of every unbeliever:

Romans 8:5 The unbeliever sets his mind on the things of the _____.

Romans 8:6 The unbeliever’s mind is _____.

Romans 8:7 The unbeliever’s mind is _____ toward God.
 The unbeliever’s mind does not subject itself to the _____ of God.
 The unbeliever’s mind is not able to subject itself to the _____ of God.

Romans 8:8 The unbeliever cannot _____ God.

Romans 8:9 The unbeliever does not have the _____ of Christ.
 The unbeliever does not _____ to Christ.

Chapter 8 (continued)

Choose one of the descriptions of those who are “led by the Spirit”, from Romans 8:10-17, and explain what it means:

After stating that the “sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed” (Rom. 8:18), Paul describes 3 groups who are presently “groaning.” Explain who or what is groaning and the reason why, as found in each the following passages:

Romans 8:20-22 _____

Romans 8:23-25 _____

Romans 8:26-27 _____

In describing the work of the Holy Spirit which brings the believer all the way to glorification, Paul concludes by encouraging the Roman believers with the doctrine of eternal security. He does this by explaining how God’s work of salvation spans the believer’s entire life (and even before he is born). This unbroken chain of steps in salvation is known by the Latin phrase “ordo salutis” (order of salvation), which describes the process of redemption from start to finish. Using Romans 8:28-30, Ephesians 1:1-14, Acts 16:14, and 1 Peter 1:1-5, put a number from 1 through 10 next to each of the steps based on the order in which they logically occur for the believer (1 being the first step and 10 being the last).

Ordo Salutis

- _____ *Conversion (Faith/Repentance)*
- _____ *Sanctification*
- _____ *Foreknowledge*
- _____ *Glorification*
- _____ *Predestination*
- _____ *Election*
- _____ *Regeneration*
- _____ *Calling*
- _____ *Justification*
- _____ *Adoption*

To conclude his teaching on the believer’s security, Paul poses 4 hypothetical questions. Write out these questions according to the passages below.

The General Question, Romans 8:31: _____

The Justification Question, Romans 8:33 _____

The Sanctification Question, Romans 8:34 _____

The Glorification Question, Romans 8:35-37 _____

What is the answer to all of these questions? _____