

PRAISE the Lord for :

- A fantastic Impact Africa mission trip. Every year we are very conscious of people praying for us
- The various opportunities the team had while away to share Christ, deliver food parcels, distribute clothing, encourage believers
- The interest in the paper globally. Thank you for continuing to partner with us so that all may have an opportunity to hear the good news of salvation in Christ
- The ongoing opportunities to speak in churches around Australia. This allows us the privilege to encourage believers in their journey and also help equip them in terms of evangelism

PRAYER needed for :

- Challenge being distributed in Australia, South Africa (plus Military edition), USA and Argentina this month

ROMANS 8:1-2: *There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.*

So we discover like Paul that the law is good in that it reveals us as sinners, but it does not have the power to set us free from the power of sin. In Romans 7:18 Paul declares every new Christian's dilemma; *"For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it."*

Often God will allow failure in our Christian walk so we realise we cannot live the Christian life. We need to see what we are in ourselves, so that we will gladly abandon our flesh life, to a life of complete dependence upon God.

Roman 7:24-25 declares Paul's understanding of this principle; *"Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God – through Jesus Christ our Lord..."*

Then in Romans 8v1-2 the impact of this revelation is explained to us. On the basis of the finished work of Calvary there is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus. Condemnation has two meanings that underline the immediate effect of placing our faith in Christ.

The law reveals to us that we are sinners. Romans 3:20 says *"No human being will be justified in his sight by works of the law, since through the law comes knowledge of sin."*

Continued over

*Ziona Grobler
and Isaac Street
(back row) in an
informal settlement,
Johannesburg,
July 2014*



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Contact us by phone (08) 9453 3311 or fax (08) 9453 3006

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PRAYER CONTINUED

- **Carl's trip to Kenya to investigate costs for a main and prison editions; and Malawi for further development of the paper there**
- **The Trezona family as they continue to develop of Challenge in the USA. Andrew has spent a lot of time on the road visiting various States promoting the work**
- **Print funding: The monthly project need is around \$20,000 to meet current commitments, and then ongoing funding to continue to work in South Africa, South America, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Botswana, USA**
- **Funding for recommencement of distribution into Kenya with the main edition and in particular a prison edition into the 104 prisons throughout Kenya**
- **The Walker family in Perth. Please continue to pray for Tessa's healing in her battle with cancer**

FIRSTLY it has the meaning of a person accused of an offence who is standing before a judge awaiting his decision. The judge lifts his gavel and declares him not guilty. Why? Because the blood of Jesus Christ has paid the penalty for our sin in full. So we are justified: Roman 5:1 *"Having been justified by faith we now have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

SECOND, condemnation has the meaning of a couple who have a house mortgage. The day comes when they make their last payment and so the house is unencumbered – debt free – no more to be paid. That is exactly what happened at Calvary. The debt for our sin has been paid in full by the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The cross of Christ has not only dealt with the penalty of sin, but also the power of sin. Romans 8v2 *"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free from the law of sin and death."*

The law could not deliver you and me from the power of sin, but the cross of Christ has. Notice how Paul says that the *"law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free..."* It is a reality, at least as a principle, but only becomes a reality as we trust completely in the risen Christ. Again and again I have met Christians who have been mistakenly trying to overcome sin in their own strength, only to become totally frustrated and discouraged. Why? Well we need to see sin as a law, just like gravity is a law. No matter how hard I try to resist gravity I can't overcome it in and of myself.

It is amazing to see aircraft weighing hundreds of tonnes suddenly lift off the ground. Why? The law of gravity has been replaced by the law of aerodynamics. At Calvary the law of sin and death was replaced by the law of the Spirit of life. Faith is what makes this a reality so that we can live consistent godly lives in Christ Jesus.

CARL CARMODY, EDITOR OF CHALLENGE

MY RESPONSE

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