

Enmity: a Short Commentary

Romans 8:1-11

Ephesians 2:11:20

We take this commentary from Paul's teachings on Enmity in Romans chapter eight and Ephesians chapter two. This commentary came about as Paul's thoughts in Romans looked to conflict with Ephesians, as I read them together. Because the Bible records scriptures in parables as stated in Matthew 13:35. It raised a question; How do these two teaching agree not disagree?

Paul is teaching from the point of view that his audience is the children of redemption. This is important because Paul is teaching the meaning of Psalms 51:5; Our body and mind are born in iniquity and our spirit/soul is born in sin. Sin is that unbelief that separates us from the Word; That law of good and evil which we inherited from Adam. Redemption separates the law of evil from the soul and sealed the soul. Replacing it with the Tree of Life; the spoken Word, that seed of Matthew 13:19-23. Luke 8:11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

However this leaves us with a problem, the iniquity of the creature. Paul's arguments that we are to read came from his life experience, as he expressed in Romans chapter seven. We find the summary for our study in the following two scriptures.

Rom 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

Eph 2:15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace.

Paul illustrates the process from natural thinking to spiritual thinking, first in Romans and then in Ephesians. He illustrates what the saints have received, now live, but don't understand. We see Paul learning this for himself as it brings him to teach the elect from Romans 7:11-23, page 8.

Now to Romans 8:1; Pauls teaches us of the conflict we have after our redemption:

Rom 8:1 *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk **not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.**

Rom 8:2 For **the law of the Spirit of life in Christ** Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. (The law of the Tree of Life Genesis 2:9 Revelation 2:7)

Rom 8:3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the **likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:**

Paul has made it a point to describe the sin from the Garden; The law of good and evil. This law of sin resides in the our spirit “the Man” as recorded in Genesis. Then Paul continues with the sins of our flesh; Really it's our mind. Did you notice Paul said there is a Law of the Spirit in Christ? This can only be the Word.

Rom 8:4 That the **righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us**, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Notice Paul points out righteousness is that spirit, the man in us, not the creature we are in flesh.

Moving on to Paul's next thought:

Rom 8:5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

Rom 8:6 For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace.

Rom 8:7 Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

Martin Luther penned in his letter “Man's Free Will,” that the only free will of our mind is the submission to the Holy Spirit. I believe spiritual mindedness to be this simple truth.

Rom 8:8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

So, those seeking Elohim through reasoning of scriptures or self sacrifice cannot please Him. By this I mean you cannot sacrifice yourself to be righteous; You cannot be religious in mind and find a spiritual walk. You must have a spiritual walk through submitting oneself to the Holy Spirit. To

help illustrate this thought we will read YAHSHUA at the pool of Bethesda when he healed one person among the many in need. Jesus worked the Fathers will not His. If we had the power to heal as Jesus did we would likely heal every person at the pool. We would have worked disobedience not righteousness; For we would have reasoned that which is good. John 5:2

Rom 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of Elohim dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

We do not receive redemption by the act of reasoning the scriptures, but to the submitting of the Word, Acts 2:38. The Word is Spirit, it is the Word; "Ye must be born again" that removes the sin from our soul; That law of good and evil, Psalms 51:5... born in sin. When people teach that a person only need to accept Christ into your heart without obedience to Acts 2:38 they are only self-righteous thinkers. They have reasoned from their mind of enmity what is good and acceptable with Elohim. We can read good intentions through reasoning in Luke 9:46-62. The part that is missing in these examples is mans submission to the Word.

Luk 9:46 Then there arose a reasoning among them, which of them should be greatest.

Luk 9:47 And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a child, and set him by him,

Luk 9:48 And said unto them, **Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great.**

Anyone Not Against Us Is For Us

Luk 9:49 And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name; and we forbad him, because he followeth not with us.

Luk 9:50 And Jesus said unto him, **Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us.**

A Samaritan Village Rejects Jesus

Luk 9:51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,

Luk 9:52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

Luk 9:53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.

Luk 9:54 And when his disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?

Luk 9:55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, **Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.**

Luk 9:56 **For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them.** And they went to another village.

The Cost of Following Jesus

Luk 9:57 And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain *man* said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

Luk 9:58 And Jesus said unto him, **Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.**

Luk 9:59 And he said unto another, **Follow me.** But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

Luk 9:60 Jesus said unto him, **Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.**

Luk 9:61 And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.

Luk 9:62 And Jesus said unto him, **No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.**

OK lets get back to that sin of death we were speaking of:

Genesis 3:22 And YAHWEH Elohim said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: (“as one of us” is speaking of Satan). Of further interest is that Satan was created eternal yet he blotted out his own name and shall be destroyed in the lake of fire. Elohim placed a law in verse 3:22 preventing man from reaching the tree of life unless that sin is removed from the inner man.)

Rom 8:10 And if Christ *be* in you, **the body *is* dead because of sin;** but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness.

Your soul is redeemed/sealed by the Word; The body is from dust to dust.

Rom 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwells in you.

Paul said in verse nine that the Spirit of Christ is the Spirit of Elohim and that we have to have the same Spirit in us. Now in verse 8:11 Paul said the “Spirit of him,” this is the Spirit/soul of Christ. If this Spirit dwells in you, it will quicken our bodies. Remember verse 8:2, the law of the Spirit in Christ is life.

The word “quicken” taken from the greek, can be taken literally or figuratively according to greek translators; The Bible translators have used it literally. The body of Messiah was not taken from this dust as we are. His body was spoke into existence by the Word; How much more His eternal body. Can the scripture be broken: from dust to dust?

Redemption for our flesh is our resurrection; I need to recognize to myself that this corporal body we dwell in turns to dust at the resurrection. Many people have the thought that the dust of their body will become their new body. But can dust leave this planet and enter the higher dimensions of the Spiritual world we call heaven? I don't believe dust is in heaven as everything on earth is three dimensional and heaven is a higher dimension than our world.

Notice Messiah's body that died; It did not come from earth it came from heaven as we will now read.

1Co 15:42 So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

1Co 15:43 It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

1Co 15:44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

1Co 15:47 The first man *is* of the earth, earthy: the second man *is* the Lord from heaven.

Joh 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,

John 1:14 And that Word was made flesh, and dwelt among vs; Geneva 1599 Bible

1Co 15:48 As *is* the earthy, such *are* they also that are earthy: and as *is* the heavenly, such *are* they also that are heavenly.

1Co 15:49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

This earthly body is born in iniquity Psalms 51:5. The blood covenant of Christ forgives our fleshly sins but redemption for our body is the resurrection into a new body and mind.

Rom 8:11 That Spirit that raised Him from the dead is that Word, that law that is in Christ as Paul said in verse two. His Spirit is that Word from John 1:1; It is not His literal Spirit in you. What dwells in the redeemed soul is what He is, the Word. If His literal Spirit dwells in you, then you are a begotten of the Father. But the Bible said there is only one begotten; YAHSHUA/Jesus.

Joh 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of **the only begotten** of the Father), full of grace and truth.

Joh 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; **the only begotten Son**, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*.

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave **His only begotten Son**, that whosoever believes **in** him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Joh 3:18 He that believes on him is not condemned: but he that believes not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of **the only begotten Son** of God.

1Jn 4:9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that **God sent his only begotten Son** into the world, that we might live through him.

Man is created in the likeness of the Spirit, Genesis 1:26. The only begotten is that Spirit.

If it's not the Word that dwells in us then the Father and Son both dwell in us as John said: **Joh 14:20** At that day ye shall know that I *am* in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. It all goes back to John's teaching on the Deity: I would like to use the Geneva Bible 1599 written in old English for reading John 1:1.

¹ In the beginning was that Word, and that Word was
² with God, and that Word was God. This same was
³ in the beginning with God. All things were made by
it, and without it was made nothing that was made.
^{4, 5} In it was life, and that life was the light of men.

His Spirit is upon you, the Comforter will place that Word in you:

1Pe 4:14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy *are ye*; for the spirit of glory and of God **rest upon** you:

Mat 12:18 Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit **upon him**,

Even in this verse of 12:18 we have the relationship expressed as Christ's Spirit, the only begotten out of the Father. But then notice the Holy Spirit as the Father is upon Christ the Son of Man. Upon Him is the anointing of peace as we can read in scriptures.

Mar 1:10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending **upon him**:

Luk 24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father **upon you**: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

1Jn 2:27 But the **anointing** which ye have received **of Him** abides in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: **but as the same anointing teach you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.**

Back to Paul:

Eph 2:11 Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;

Eph 2:12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

Eph 2:13 But now **in Christ** Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

(Messiah is brought close to us by His blood covenant; We are in Christ by the Word in us. There is always two subjects, the creature of iniquity and the spirit “man”.)

Eph 2:14 For **he is our peace**, who hath made **both one**, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*;

2:13-14 Those “in” Christ are now one “in” the body of Christ, the called out, the church. As the partition of sin has been removed that once stood between us and Him. This allows our spirit to fellowship with His Spirit by the Word. This was typed in the Old Testament as the High Priest must give the blood sacrifice before he could enter behind the veil in the temple.

Eph 2:15 Having **abolished in his flesh** the enmity, *even* the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances; for to make **in himself** of twain **one new man**, so making peace.

Our inner Man is now one in fellowship with Christ. Instead of mentally keeping the commandments, we now have the commandments living in

us, Romans 8:4. At His resurrection He took on an eternal body; Because of His resurrection we will have our resurrection, strife no longer between our body and the Spirit. He did this for us so that we shall be in His likeness at our resurrection; Receiving our new eternal body thereby making the two into one harmonious relationship.

The next four scriptures all agree that the cross brings the redemption of our body:

1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see Him as He is.

Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Eph 1:14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

Rom 8:23 And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body.

Look how Paul expressed that in his life the enmity of mind against Spirit as illustrated, will end strife with his redemption at the resurrection. Paul's passion to teach the work of the cross, what it accomplished for him and how the Holy Spirit answered Paul's questions.

We witness his conflict in chapter seven of Romans. Paul's own condition, as he describes in Romans 7:11-23, bringing him to the ultimate question in verse 7:24.

Rom 7:11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew *me*.

Rom 7:12 Wherefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

Rom 7:13 Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.

Rom 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

Rom 7:15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

Rom 7:16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that *it is good*.

Rom 7:17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelt in me.

Paul is talking about his mind as it is enmity with Elohim and now through redemption through the new birth Deity dwells in his soul.

Rom 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh), dwelt no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.

Rom 7:19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

Rom 7:20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelt in me.

Rom 7:21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

Rom 7:22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

Rom 7:23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

To me that the law of Paul's mind, that enmity of reasoning is against his inner man the spirit. As his eternal soul now dwells with a sin bound mind of death. That self will or self reasoning which so easily besets us.

Rom 7:24 O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

Rom 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwells in you.

Rom 8:23 And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body.

We are now by His blood and redemption of our soul part of the body in Christ that Word. As Martin Luther said: Our flesh can only submit its will to the Spirit. Our minds being carnal can only reason with the truth not receive it as our spirit does. The reasoning of the mind is the enmity of it. Adam and Eve fell because of reasoning and so did Paul as he said his

mind deceives him in Romans 7:11. We now await the redemption from our body which will give us the same eternal body as Christ.

Eph 2:17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. (John 16:33, Philippians 4:7)

Eph 2:18 For through him **we both have access by one Spirit** unto the Father.

In verse 2:18 Paul is speaking that through the Only Begotten in the Son of Man we have access by one Spirit.

Eph 2:19 **Now therefore** ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

Eph 2:20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*;

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was that Word, and that Word was with God, and that Word was God.

Joh 6:63 It is the spirit that quickens; the flesh profits nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life.