

## The Mind Set on the Flesh

Romans 8.6-8

Introduction:

- A. Paul is emphasizing the value of being in Christ as opposed to the Law of Moses (Rom 8.1-4)
- B. The Law had manifest weaknesses pertaining to the flesh (Rom 8.3)
- C. Having introduced the "flesh," Paul expands in Rom 8.5-6, leading to our text
  - 1. Those under the Spirit's influence are not in the flesh, Rom 8.9
  - 2. Flesh, or "carnal," derived from Greek sarkikos, the flesh, the body.
  - 3. It means to be governed by the desire of the flesh and not the teaching of God (1 Cor 3.1-3)

Discussion:

I. Some False Views

- A. Inherited Adamic corrupt nature.
- B. Special direct working of the Spirit.
- C. "Not subject" of older translations has led some to say this means that they will not be judged by God's law.

II. What it means

- A. Being subject to the law of God is a requisite
  - 1. God does have law today (1 Cor 9.21; James 1.25; Gal 6.2, cp Mt 7.21-23; John 12.48)
  - 2. Why are those in the flesh not subject to God's Law?
    - a. No interest (Acts 17.21, 32)
    - b. Self-worship (Phil 3.19)
    - c. Enjoy the flesh (2 Pet 2.10, 14)
    - d. Hate authority (2 Pet 2.10)
- B. Those subject to God's Law:
  - 1. "Mind things of Spirit" Rom 8.5
  - 2. They are debtors to God Rom 8.12
  - 3. They have put to death the deeds of the flesh Rom 8.13, cp Col 3.1-5
  - 4. They are led by the Spirit Rom 8.14 (flashlight analogy)
- C. Matters that can cause us to be "subject to (or submit to) God's law":
  - 1. Realizing God's great love Jn 3.16, 2 Cor 5.14-15
  - 2. Need of forgiveness Mt 26.28, Acts 2.38
  - 3. Believing in heaven and hell Matt 25.46

Conclusion:

- A. Is your mind set on the things of the flesh?
- B. Or the things of the Spirit?
- C. Your answer uncovers your eternal destiny at this very moment.