

Romans 8:1+2 Note: "free": Paul uses "slave" and "free", b, (21) the breathing of the Holy Scripture (All scripture is "God breathed")

2 Timothy 3:16-17 N.I.V.) to describe our former, and present, selves.

- Before, and after Jesus' birth people who ran up their Mastercard, Visa, and American Express bills without paying them (20+) were taken captive and sold off in the slave market (or imprisoned) until said debt was paid-in-full.

There were three main outcomes for such a slave:

1. Purchased by a master and treated like property with no rights and no hope. The master (if he were a harsh task master) could use, abuse, or even dispose of the slave as he wished.
2. Purchased by a master and treated like a family member and after a period of time be given his freedom. But because of being taken care of so admirably during the servitude almost all would choose to stay-on out of gratitude for their master from subjecting them to #1 (above) or #2 (below). They were known as "bondslave / bondservants" from the Greek word "doulos" which means "one who is subservient to his master; a slave."
3. Not purchased by anyone and used as lion food in the Coliseum.

Exodus 21:3-6 is a perfect example of God's decree on the matter. (See scripture print-out).

Jesus is that Master. He comes to all slave auctions and He is willing to buy any and all "slaves" that wish to be freed. Of course "slaves" do have the right to refuse His offer and the eternal "Coliseum" will be their end destination. Praise God that Jesus bought us out of that market!

Romans 8:6+7: Our old life lead us in to being so indebted to sin that we were without hope. "BUT GOD"!, the moment we were purchased put His Seal on us by the imparting of the Holy Spirit. He did that so that when we want to behave as we did in the past we are reminded that we have been set

free from our previous dead end life. And now our mind (22) can live by the guidance of the Holy Spirit and is no longer forced to live by the guidance of sin + death.

Romans 8:9 "Spirit of God" and "Spirit of Christ" is our signant seal that we belong to God. We received that when we first believed in the finished work of the cross by the imparting of the Holy Spirit. "Anyone who does not have the Holy Spirit does not have God nor salvation. (Acts 4:10-12, John 4:6 see scripture printout). This promise/warning makes us the Whole New Testament; Christ and only Christ!

Romans 8:10-11 Another one of the rewards of accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior is that we are guaranteed that the same Holy Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead raises us from the dead.

Romans 8:12-14 I believe that what Paul is implying here is that although we have salvation purposely returning to our old selves identifies us as not truly being saved. God gave us the Holy Spirit of power to go out and testify how we have become new/reborn children of God.

Romans 8:15 Because of our faith, and thus the implanting of God the Holy Spirit, we are now considered Children of God! We can call Him Father. Just like Jesus calls Him Father.

Romans 8:16-17 Jesus was literally the perfect Son. He always sought His Fathers will; even in the Garden of Gethseme. Why? Because that was God's (the Triune God's) plan for Him when He gave up His Omnicience, Omnipresence, and Omnipotence to be born of a woman. He "picked up His Cross" (which is doing God's will in His life). When we pick up our cross (do that which God designed us, willed us, to do) we too are God's children. Of course even though we will forever be with God that does not exclude us from sufferings in this fallen world!

Romans 8:18 Keeping our eyes on what awaits us might be our only solice in times/seasons of troubles. Just like Paul in 2 Corinthians 11:22-30 (the times of trouble) and 2 Corinthians 12:1-5 (the experience Paul looks back on when all seems hopeless)