

Condemnation Removed by Faith in Christ, Rom 8:3; Law's Requirement Fulfilled by Imputation of Divine Righteousness; Sin No Longer an Issue, Rev 20:12c

Independence Day Reading: Excerpts from an article by:

Lossing, B. J. "John Witherspoon." In *Biographical Sketches of the Signers of the Declaration of American Independence*. New York: George F. Cooledge & Brother, Publishers, 1848. Reprint, Aledo, Texas: WallBuilder Press, 2007, 27-32.

- 19) The result is restoration to fellowship and resumption of the filling of the Holy Spirit. The verse that instructs us about this is Romans 5:12. Here's the quote but we will return to it after we complete the passage in Romans 8 and see how it fits in to our study:

Romans 5:12 - Just as through one man, Adam, the sin nature entered into the world and so spiritual death through the sin nature, consequently, spiritual death spread to all men because all have sinned as a result of Adam's sin.

- 20) Adam's original sin is the basis for the universal condemnation of mankind. This is God's grace. Since He could not have fellowship with fallen mankind and since mankind is incapable of recovering perfection, then God found a way to restore us to His favor.
- 21) Our sins were not imputed to us, they were imputed to Christ. This is the meaning of the phrase "judged the sinful nature in the flesh."

Romans 8:3 - For what was not possible for the Law to do, because it was weak through the flesh, God did, sending His own Son in the appearance, or in the likeness, of a human body that contains a sinful nature, but which in actuality was without a sinful nature, and as a substitute for sin, God judged the sinful nature in the flesh,

20. The sentence continues in verse 4 where we see the second marriage take precedence over the first marriage. The sentence begins with a purpose clause in verse three that addresses the requirement of the Law:

Romans 8:4 - [NASB] so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

1. The verse begins with the conjunction *ἵνα*, *hina* which with the subject introduces a purpose clause: *δικαίωμα*, *dikaiōma*, translated "requirement."
2. The Law's legal requirement: is "be as good as God." In other words possess perfect righteousness. This is impossible short of the grace of God and the work of Christ.
3. Therefore, since Jesus Christ resolved the sin problem in verse three then those who believe in Christ are qualified to receive the imputation of God's righteousness.
4. Since all were condemned at physical birth by the imputation of Adam's sin and since all personal sins were imputed to Christ and judged, then the believer's imperfection is removed by the grace of God and the work of Christ.

5. The principle that emerges is that righteousness demands righteousness and justice demands justice. What righteousness demands, justice must execute.
6. The perfect righteousness of God is the protector and guardian of His perfect justice, while justice is the protector and guardian of His perfect righteousness.
7. Because all personal sins were transferred to Jesus Christ and judged in Him, then no person is ever indicted by the justice of God for his sins.

Revelation 20:12c - ...and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds [ἔργων, **ergon**: “works”: acts of human good and evil performed in place of faith in Christ].

8. The indictment for our sins was placed on Christ through imputation and the judgment for them was paid by His spiritual death.
9. With condemnation removed, then the justice of God is free to impute divine righteousness to anyone who believes.