

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE LIVING OF THE SONS OF GOD
FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST AS REVEALED IN ROMANS 8**

Message One

**The Living of the Sons of God for the Body of Christ
according to the Focus of Romans 8**

Scripture Reading: Rom. 8:2, 4, 9-11, 14; 12:1-2, 4-5

- I. The will of God is to obtain a Body for Christ to be His fullness, His expression—Eph. 1:5, 9; Rom. 12:2, 4-5:**
- A. According to Romans 12, the will of God is for us mutually to be members one of another, coordinating to be the Body of Christ and living the Body life; to live the Body life is to “prove what the will of God is”—vv. 2, 4-5.
 - B. If we live as members of the Body, acting and functioning in the church life, we will be persons in the will of God—12:2, 4-5; 1 Cor. 1:1-2; Eph. 1:1; 5:17.
 - C. The focal point of the book of Romans is the Body of Christ—Rom. 12:4-5:
 - 1. If we neglect the Body of Christ, we do not have the proper goal, aim, and direction in our Christian life.
 - 2. Consecration is for the Body of Christ; the purpose of consecration is for us to realize the Body of Christ and to live the Body life—vv. 1-2.
 - D. Romans 12 speaks of the Body from the angle of the organic union—from a life that unites us with Christ and with all the other members of Christ—vv. 4-5.
 - E. The mystical Body of Christ is formed by Christ as life in each of us, mingled with us—Col. 3:4, 15.
 - F. The Bible and our experience prove that though each one of us is a member of the Body of Christ, yet the life in each one of us is not a *member* life but a *Body* life; this life is Christ Himself in us—John 15:1, 4-5.
 - G. If we are still living according to the flesh, in ourselves, and according to our natural constitution, the life of the Body has no way of being manifested, and there is no way for us to know the Body—6:6; 8:13; 12:4-5.
- II. The focus, the central teaching, of Romans 8 and of the entire Bible is that the Triune God desires to live in His redeemed and regenerated people so that they may live Him—Eph. 3:16-17a; 4:1; Rom. 8:2, 4, 9, 11:**
- A. The Triune God, after passing through His processes and accomplishing everything necessary for the fulfillment of His eternal purpose, became the Spirit in order to enter into man and live in man so that man may live Him—John 1:14; 20:22; 1 Cor. 15:45b; Rom. 8:2, 4, 9, 11, 14:
 - 1. The Spirit is the ultimate consummation of the processed Triune God; as such a Spirit, the Triune God lives in us, and we live Him—John 7:39.
 - 2. When we live the Triune God as the Spirit, He becomes everything to us; every virtue is the issue of the indwelling God—Phil. 1:19-21a; 4:5, 8-9.
 - B. The Christian life and the church life are not a matter whether we are right or wrong but of whether we are living ourselves or living God—Gal. 2:20.

- C. We need to live the Triune God by allowing Him to indwell us, make His home in us, and take full possession of our being and by walking according to the spirit—Eph. 3:16-17a; Rom. 8:4, 11, 14:
1. Our spirit is indwelt by and mingled with the Spirit, who is the consummation of the processed Triune God; since we have such a wonderful mingled spirit within us, our unique need is to walk according to this spirit—v. 4.
 2. God wants a people who live Christ in a practical way by walking according to the spirit—John 6:57b; 14:19; Rom. 8:4; Phil. 1:19-21a.
 3. To walk according to the spirit is to do everything in our daily life according to the spirit—Rom. 8:4-14.
 4. All that we need to do is live the Triune God by walking according to the spirit; everything else will be a spontaneous issue of our living the Triune God—Phil. 1:21a; Rom. 8:4.