

26-0531sc - Detailed Summary

26-0531sc - *The Book of Romans, Steve Cain*

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26-0531 - The Book of Romans 8:1-11

Summary of Transcript (0:04 - 34:14), Teacher: Steve Cain

(0:04 - 2:55) Sin Empowered by Law, Freedom in Christ

Steve explains that Paul identifies the law as what gives sin its power in our lives. Sin uses the law to tempt and condemn, as seen in Paul's example of coveting — something he didn't recognize as sin until the commandment revealed it. When we die with Jesus through baptism into His death, burial, and resurrection, we die to both sin and the law. Where there is no law, there is no sin, removing sin's ability to condemn us.

This transition moves us from the law (works) into faith, where we can receive God's grace. Under the law, God had to honor it fully, which is why Jesus died — to remove us from the law's domain and place us under faith so we can be declared righteous.

(2:55 - 5:51) No Condemnation Mindset

The mindset of no condemnation involves agreeing in our minds that God's law is right and good, while recognizing our flesh is weak. We serve God's law with our minds but often fail in the flesh. This differs from justifying our sins or claiming we are "good enough." Instead, we acknowledge God's standards, our frailty, and our need for His solution.

Steve emphasizes maintaining this honest dichotomy: willing mind, weak flesh. This understanding flows directly into the relief of Romans 8.

(5:51 - 10:29) Ongoing Sin, Continuous Cleansing

Even after moving from law to faith, Christians may still sin and covet, but it does not bring condemnation. As long as we walk in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:5-7), Jesus' blood continuously cleanses us. Jesus intercedes at God's right hand, pleading our case when we confess.

Steve illustrates this with the common but flawed idea of needing to die with a final prayer for forgiveness. Using the truck driver hauling gasoline who crashes, he shows that our eternal destiny depends on our overall "tenor of life," not a single moment of weakness.

(10:29 - 15:15) Righteousness as Gift, Walking in Light

Jesus died once to cover the sins of many; His single sacrifice remains effective. The Holy Spirit validated Jesus' perfect righteous life, enabling God to raise Him — and ultimately us. Righteousness is a gift from God, not something we earn.

In 1 John, walking in light contrasts with walking in darkness for Christians. Claiming fellowship while living in darkness makes one a liar. Walking in light means actively learning about Christ, the law, and the doctrine of righteousness. God places us in a "penalty-free environment" while we learn and grow, knowing we cannot change overnight.

(15:15 - 21:12) Righteousness by Faith, Not Works

Paul shows in chapters 5-7 that the law condemns us, but God wants to give us righteousness as a free gift through Jesus. The law requires works; faith allows God to credit us with righteousness. We do not earn it through great feats or good deeds.

Our justification comes legally through Jesus' death satisfying the law. He paid our debt. God raised Jesus because of His proven righteousness (attested by the Holy Spirit), demonstrating He is the Son of God.

(21:12 - 24:07) Standing Before God by Faith

When we stand before God, it will be based on faith, not works of the law. Baptism grants remission of sins and newness of life through repentance. The Holy Spirit serves as the Christian's mark and down payment guaranteeing our inheritance.

Steve references Hebrews, Ephesians, and 1 Thessalonians to describe the resurrection: the dead in Christ rise first, then the living are changed to meet the Lord. All will receive heavenly bodies designed for eternity.

(24:07 - 29:34) Romans 8:1-4 No Condemnation

Steve reads Romans 8:1-4: There is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus. The law of the Spirit of life has set us free from the law of sin and death. What the law could not do because of human weakness, God accomplished by sending His Son as an offering for sin, condemning sin in the flesh.

This fulfills the law's requirement in those who walk according to the Spirit, not the flesh. By removing us from the law (sin's power source), God enables us to choose Him freely. Conforming to God's will brings love, joy, and peace — fruit with no law against it.

(29:34 - 34:14) Mindset of Flesh vs Spirit, Bodily Resurrection

Those according to the flesh set their minds on fleshly things, leading to death and hostility toward God. Those in the Spirit set their minds on spiritual things, resulting in life and peace. If the Spirit of God dwells in you, you belong to Christ. Though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit gives life, and God will raise our mortal bodies.

Steve highlights the bodily resurrection: we receive spiritual bodies suited for heaven. Non-Christians will also receive such bodies but face torment in hell, designed for Satan, making it especially terrible. The class closes preparing to continue with verse 12 the following week.

Verses Steve covered in Romans Chapter 8:

Explicitly Read and Discussed:

- **Romans 8:1** – "Therefore there is now no condemnation at all for those who are in Christ Jesus."
- **Romans 8:2** – "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death."
- **Romans 8:3** – Discussed in detail (what the law could not do, God sending His Son in the likeness of sinful flesh as an offering, condemning sin in the flesh).
- **Romans 8:4** – "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."

Additionally Covered:

- **Romans 8:5-8** – The contrast between the mindset of the flesh (death, hostility toward God) and the mindset of the Spirit (life and peace).
- **Romans 8:9** – "However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you."
- **Romans 8:10-11** – If Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin but the Spirit is alive because of righteousness. God will give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit.

Summary: Steve thoroughly covered **Romans 8:1–11**, with the strongest emphasis on verses **1–4**. He planned to continue with verse 12 the following week.

The majority of the class time was spent building the theological foundation from Romans 7 before transitioning into the opening section of Romans 8.

Romans 7 foundation

Steve's coverage of Romans Chapter 7 and other passages:

Romans Chapter 7

Steve **did not read large portions** of Romans 7 verse-by-verse in this class. However, he **heavily referenced and built upon** key themes and specific verses from Romans 7 as the foundation for the entire lesson before transitioning to Romans 8.

Main points covered from Romans 7: - The **power of sin coming through the law** (especially the

example of coveting). - Paul's personal struggle: "I did not know that coveting was a sin... until the law came" → **Romans 7:7-8** (strongly implied and summarized). - Dying to the law through Christ's death → **Romans 7:4-6** concept. - The internal conflict: "In my mind I serve the law of God, but in my flesh..." → **Romans 7:25** (explicitly referenced as "that last verse, chapter 7"). - The mindset of agreeing with the law in the mind while acknowledging the weakness of the flesh. - No condemnation because we are released from the law's dominion.

Steve treated Romans 7 as the critical setup for understanding "no condemnation" in Romans 8.

Other Additional Passages Referenced

Steve frequently cross-referenced other parts of the Bible to support his teaching:

- **1 John 1:5-7** — Walking in the light as He is in the light; Jesus' blood continuously cleanses us.
- **1 John 1:6** — Claiming fellowship while walking in darkness = lying.
- **1 John 1:9** — If we confess our sins, He is faithful to forgive.
- **Hebrews** (general) — Jesus does not need to be re-crucified; single sacrifice.
- **Ephesians** (likely 1:13-14) — Holy Spirit as earnest/down payment/guarantee.
- **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17** — Resurrection scene: dead in Christ rise first, then living believers.
- **Galatians 5:22-23** — Fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace) against which there is no law.
- **1 Corinthians 15** — Bodily resurrection (sown a natural body, raised a spiritual body).
- **General references:**
 - Romans chapters 5, 6, and 7 as a unit explaining righteousness as a gift.
 - The concept of justification and grace vs. works.

Summary: Steve's class was **heavily rooted in Romans 7** (especially the ending and the law/sin dynamic), even though he didn't read long sections aloud. He used it as the bridge into **Romans 8:1-11**, while supporting the teaching with several key New Testament passages focused on light/darkness, the Holy Spirit, resurrection, and ongoing cleansing by Christ's blood.