

**From Agony to Ecstasy**  
*Starve the flesh; feed the Spirit!*

<b>Unrighteousness</b>	<b>Righteousness</b>
<b>Flesh</b>	<b>Spirit</b>
<b>Death/Dead</b>	<b>Life/Alive</b>
<b>Condemnation</b>	<b>Salvation</b>
<b>Bondage</b>	<b>Freedom/Liberty</b>
<b>Law</b>	<b>Spirit</b>
<b>Sinful</b>	<b>Holy</b>
<b>Weakness</b>	<b>Power</b>
<b>Slave</b>	<b>Son/Daughter</b>
<b>Deceit</b>	<b>Truth</b>
<b>Wrath of God</b>	<b>Love of God</b>
<b>Of Satan</b>	<b>In Christ</b>
<b>Powerless</b>	<b>Empowered</b>
<b>Hopeless</b>	<b>Hopeful</b>
<b>Hostility</b>	<b>Harmony</b>
<b>Helpless</b>	<b>Protected/Safe</b>
<b>Burden bearer</b>	<b>Gift receiver</b>
<b>Enmity/Disquietude</b>	<b>Peace</b>
<b>Condemned</b>	<b>Reconciled/Justified</b>
<b>Alienated from God</b>	<b>Joint Heir with Christ</b>
<b>Kingdom of Darkness</b>	<b>Kingdom of Light</b>
Your ideas	

## **From Agony to Ecstasy**

### **Review**

There's an elephant in the room.

### **A. Basic Outline of Chapter 8**

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Freedom from Judgment (1 – 4)         | No condemnation |
| 2. Freedom from Defeat (5 – 17)          | No obligation   |
| 3. Freedom from Discouragement (18 – 30) | No frustration  |
| 4. Freedom from Fear (31 – 39)           | No separation   |
- (From *Be Right* by Warren Wiersbe)

### **B. Freedom from Judgment (1 – 4)**

1. Defining condemnation.
2. The Law cannot claim us (vs 2).
3. The Law cannot condemn us (vs 3). Why?
4. The Law cannot control us (vs 4).
5. Paul builds an argument or case using “for.”

### **C. Freedom from Defeat (5 – 17)**

1. The flesh or the Spirit
2. Death or life
3. War with God or Peace with God
4. Pleasing self or pleasing God
5. The Spirit has us!

## 6. The Spirit of Adoption

7. Paul builds the argument or case using contrasts. Notice the use of “but.”

### **Additional questions and ideas to consider:**

1. We did not have time to discuss the four conditional statements of 8: 9 – 11: “If . . . then.” Discuss these conditional statements – If . . . and the consequences of the condition.
2. What is it that the Law could not do?
3. A friend comes to you and says: “I accepted Christ as my Savior 10 years ago, but I have been caught up in this terrible sin. Am I really saved”? After your study of these verses, and in light of Romans 6 & 7, what do you say to your friend?
4. In your personal study, consider these other references as you contemplate being adopted into God’s family:  
*Adoption:* Romans 8:23, 9:4, Gal 4:5, Eph 1:5.  
*Children:* John. 1:12, 11:52, Acts 17:29, Rom.8:21, 9:8, Phil. 2:15, 1 John. 3:1-2, 3:10, 5:2.  
*Heirs or inheritance:* Mat 5:5, Mat 19:29, 25:34, Mark 10:17, Acts 20:32, 26:18, Rom. 4:13-14, 1 Cor 6:9-11, 15:50-53, Gal 3:18, 3:29, 5:19-23, Eph 1:11-18, 3:6, 5:5, Col 1:12, 3:18, Tit. 3:7, Heb 1:14, 6:11-17, 9:15, 11:8-9, Jas. 2:5, 1 Peter 1:3,4, Rev 21:6-8.  
*(From Desiring God Community Church, Charlotte, NC. Romans 8: A Study Guide for the Greatest Chapter in the Bible)*
5. If you are a Christian, you are a son (daughter) of the living God, adopted and born into his family. Our adoption means something. Because you are his daughter,
  - God loves you.
  - God protects you.
  - God provides for you.
  - God plans for you.
  - God hears you.
  - God claims you and openly acknowledges you.
  - God chastens and corrects you, and
  - God honors you.*(From a message by Ray Stedman, Peninsula Bible Church, Palo Alto, CA)*