

INSIGHTS ON ROMANS: THE CHRISTIAN'S CONSTITUTION

FROM AGONY TO ECSTASY

ROMANS 7:24–8:4



The Heart of the Matter

The old saying goes, “It’s always darkest before the dawn.” Those who have been Christians long enough would agree that this statement reflects something true about the spiritual life. In fact, those words summarize the flow of Paul’s writing as he transitioned from the darkness of Romans 7 and approached the light of Romans 8. By the end of chapter 7, he was at the bottom, discouraged and groaning. He exclaimed, “Wretched man that I am!” (Romans 7:24). It doesn’t get much darker than that, does it? But then the dawn breaks in chapter 8, bringing supernatural help and bright hope to all of us. In this message, we discover how God rescues us from sin, giving promises of assurance and affirmation.



Discovering the Way

1. A Quick Review of the Struggle (Romans 7:14–25)

A constant struggle with sin rages in all of us, often resulting in weariness, hopelessness, and feelings of being trapped and condemned. However, Romans 7:25 reveals that God can bring relief from this wretched condition.

2. A Helpful Preview of Purpose (Romans 8:1–4)

Believers in Christ are no longer under condemnation. In fact, God’s Spirit does for believers what we could not do for ourselves. Believers are eternally secure in Christ, we are internally free from sin’s dominion and the fear of death, and we are righteous in our position before God.

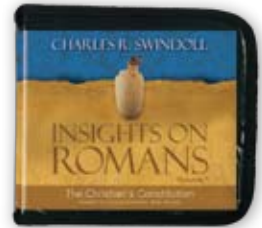


Starting Your Journey

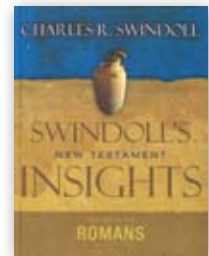
As believers, we must always remind ourselves of two powerful truths about reality. First, a life without struggles is impossible. And second, a struggle without surrender is miserable to endure.



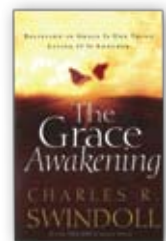
Tools for Digging Deeper



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