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## The Great Who

What is the answer? (v.24)  
Who is the answer?

- Rom 13:14 - "put on the Lord Jesus Christ"
- Matt 16:15 - "who do you say that I am?"
- Matt 11:28 - "come to me"

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## No Condemnation (Rom 8:1-4)

The Power of the Great Who of *Romans 7:24*  
How do I begin to *experience* and *actualize* His power against the sin in my life?  
**Romans 8** is the answer.

- **Romans 8** starts in the middle of **7:25**.
- Verse **8:1** should start with "but"
  - It introduces a contrast that shows the way out of the struggle of chapter 7!

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## No Condemnation (Rom 8:1-4)

Understanding the *Power of the Way* in regards to the struggle against sin.

1. There is a struggle! (*Eph 6*)

- Between the spirit and the flesh
  - Spirit - where the Spirit indwells
  - Flesh - the body controlled by sin - the soul's focus on the body apart from Jesus.
  - Satan somehow has access to us through the "flesh" (fiery darts of *Eph 6*)
- **Galatians 5:17** - the two are in opposition

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## No Condemnation (Rom 8:1-4)

Understanding the *Power of the Way* in regards to the struggle against sin.

1. There is a struggle! (*cont.*)

- A false view of Christianity
  - Some Christians resent the fact that the struggle is there
  - Others are trying to find a way to permanently remove the struggle.
- How do we not get taken down in this struggle?
  - By counting on who we really are in Christ.
  - By seeing ourselves the way God sees us!

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## No Condemnation (Rom 8:1-4)

Understanding the *Power of the Way* in regards to the struggle against sin.

2. The struggle is without condemnation

- The reason?
  - We are "in Christ Jesus." (*Col. 3:3*)
  - We were taken out of Adam and placed into Christ and there will forever be no condemnation - none. (*Romans 6:11*)
- No condemnation?
  - No rejection
  - God is not angry
  - But there is discipline in the times I deliberately sin!

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Understanding the *Power of the Way* in regards to the struggle against sin.

3. Provision has been made for complete victory!

- **v.2** - "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus"
- Has done what?
  - Set us free from the law of sin and of death!
- When we truly believe this and count it as fact, then the power of the Spirit is released within us
  - Wretched man that I am?
  - Not anymore. I am in Christ. I am a new creation. I am a saint.

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## No Condemnation (Rom 8:1-4)

Understanding the *Power of the Way* in regards to the struggle against sin.

4. The Law is powerless against the struggle with sin!

- It only demands. It never enables.
  - 1 Cor. 15:56 – the power of sin is the law!
- The struggle of Romans 7 will worsen as long as our efforts are by the flesh (our strength).
- The Law must bring us to the end of ourselves!
  - Sin management is not how we overcome the struggle.
  - Viewing ourselves as God sees us is how we overcome.

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Understanding the *Power of the Way* in regards to the struggle against sin.

5. The perfect and righteous requirement of the Law has been fulfilled in us!

- It is finished! The work is done.
- You are a new creation if you are in Christ!
- We must start believing what God says about us if we are truly going to walk in victory against the struggle. (Hebrews 4)
  - We are constantly believing the lie that we have to change our actions in order to be new.
  - No! God has made us new, and when we believe this, our actions will begin to change.

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## No Condemnation (Rom 8:1-4)

Understanding the *Power of the Way* in regards to the struggle against sin.

"When I have come to the place of saying, 'What a wretched man I am!' the only thing left, if I want any escape at all, is to ask, 'Why am I thinking of myself in this way? God says I am different.' Reckoning on the difference that has come to me in Christ, I can rise up to act differently. This is the way out. God knows my failures are driving me to this moment; and as a loving father he is patiently waiting for it to come." (Stedman)

The Way to break the power of the most vicious and evil habits is to see yourself as God sees you – in Christ, a new creation. Then His presence will begin to empower your actions to be used for His will, not your own.

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