

WHEN IN ROME VIII MINDSET

ROMANS 8:5-8

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What preoccupies your mind?

Romans 8:5-8

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Galatians 6:8

For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Mind preoccupied with the lesser desires of the flesh

- *Death – 8:6a For to set the mind on the flesh is death,*
- *Hostility to God – 8:7a For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God,*

Galatians 5:19-21

Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Q: Why?

- *Empty-headed and hearted stubbornness – 8:7b for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.*

- Absolute inability to find joy and fulfillment [to please God] – 8:8 *Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

Mind preoccupied by the greater desires of the Spirit

- Life – 8:5b *but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.*

Colossians 3:2

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

- Peace – 8:6b *but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.*

Galatians 6:8-9

For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Steps to set your mind on God's Truth

- Remove obvious distractions.
- Question yourself: Where does *this* lead? – Colossians 3:5-9 *Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices*
- Suit up every day – Colossians 3:10 *and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.*