

## Romans 8:5-9

**8:5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.**

Simple fact of life stated here in Romans 8:5. People that are born after the flesh are concerned and think about the things of the flesh. BUT those that have been born after the Spirit mind the things of the Spirit. See John 3:3-8.

This explains why unsaved people are not interested in spiritual things. Spiritual things are foreign to them, they can't comprehend them (1 Corinthians 2:11-14, 1 John 4:4-6).

**8:6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.**

A carnal mind leads to death. A carnal mind is mind that is concerned with fulfilling the lusts of the flesh; it is interested in physical things not spiritual things.

A carnal mind is like this (Galatians 5:19-21, Romans 1:28-32, Matthew 5:18-20).

A spiritual mind leads to life and peace (regardless of physical, temporal circumstances). Galatians 5:22-23, Philippians 2:5-8. If you want peace keep your mind on the Lord (Isaiah 26:3), do right (Psalm 37:37, Proverbs 3:1-2), love his commandments (Psalm 119:165),

**8:7-8 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.**

The carnal mind is hatred/dislike (enmity) against God. That is the natural state of your flesh. Your flesh hates God, the Bible, righteousness, holiness, etc. It does not want the Spirit to run your life (Galatians 5:17). Therefore it cannot obey the law of God. It cannot be subject to his commandments. That is why it is a waste of time to try and obey God on your own, that is, in the flesh. It cannot be done (Zechariah 4:6).

This is why the Bible makes a definitive statement here: they that are in the flesh cannot please God. Our purpose in life is to please God (Revelation 4). In the flesh, we cannot fulfill our purpose because of the fall in Genesis 3. Well, how could we ever please God then?

The scripture says without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). So faith is necessary. And it just so happens that after you put your faith and trust in the Lord you receive the Holy Ghost (Ephesians 1:12-14). Now that you have believed on him, and have done exactly what God wants you to do (John 6:28-29), you can start pleasing God because you are no longer in the flesh, but in the Spirit.

**8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**

How do you know if you are IN the Spirit? You know you are IN the Spirit if the Spirit of God lives in you (Romans 8:16; John 3:3-8; John 14:15-17, 26; 15:26-27; 16:8-14; 1 John 2:27). If you are in the Spirit then you are in the kingdom of God (Romans 14:17).

You know if you have the Spirit of God (1 John 3:19-21, 3:23-24, 4:13, 5:10).

Since we have the Spirit, we belong to Christ (1 Corinthians 3:23).