



## Introduction

*God's plan through Jesus transforms our lives.*



## Questions

- What is the advantage for those who are in Christ?
- What is the important difference between the mind of the flesh and the mind of the spirit?
- What is Paul's conclusion to what he has been saying in this section of his letter?



## Summary Points

- **v 1 to 11** Those in Christ who walk according to the spirit will not be condemned. The mind of the flesh (see theme) is hostile to God and brings death, but the mind of the spirit (see theme) is life and peace. If the spirit of God is influencing our thinking and way of life, God will give us life
- **v 12 to 17** We can have a real parent-child relationship with God if our behaviour shows we are led by the spirit of God
- **v 18 to 25** Despite this we still suffer, but the sufferings of this present life are insignificant compared with the glorious times that are to come. Creation is waiting for deliverance from its decaying state when it will become obvious who the children of God are
- **v 26 to 30** God helps us in our struggles in prayer. He makes everything work for the long-term good of all who respond to His call
- **v 31 to 39** Since God was prepared to give his beloved Son, Jesus, to die for us, then there is nothing that can separate us from his love

**Timeline** AD 60 (see below)



## Themes

### The conflict between flesh and spirit

*A selection of verses showing the inevitable conflict between our natural way of living (the flesh) and God's way (the spirit).*

Jesus makes it clear that there is a distinction between flesh and spirit:

*John 3 verse 6*

He also points out the consequences of both ways of life. He tells us that we can be in the spirit by listening to what he says:

*John 6 verse 33*

The letters to the Romans and Galatians give us the consequences of both ways of life:

*Romans 8 verse 13*

*Galatians 6 verse 8*



The letter to the Galatians tells us that there is tension between flesh and spirit and that naturally speaking the flesh will be the easier option:

*Galatians 5 verse 17*

### **The mind of the spirit**

The phrase mind of the spirit is one of many similar phrases used to indicate a mind dominated by spiritual thinking as opposed to our natural way of thinking:

*Romans 8 verse 6*

Other phrases indicating the spiritual mind are:

- spirit of life in Christ Jesus:

*Romans 8 verse 2*

- living according to the spirit:

*Romans 8 verse 5*

- spirit of Christ:

*Romans 8 verse 9*

- Christ's mind:

*1 Corinthians 2 verse 16*

- walking by the spirit:

*Galatians 5 verse 16*

- fruit of the spirit:

*Galatians 5 verse 22*

## **? Answers to questions**

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 1, Q 2: v 6 to 8, Q 3: v 37 to 39



# Bible timeline

