

DOCTRINE OF THE RULERSHIP OF LIFE

September 9, 1981

- I. Preliminary observations and introduction.
 - A. The principle of rulership is found in the theology of Rom.5:14, 17, 21 and 6:12.
 - B. There exist two potential rulers of the 'Real You' (the soul).
 - 1. The ISTA, programmed with knowledge of human good and evil (Rom.6:12).
 - 2. The IHS along with the reprogrammed mind of Christ (Gal.5:17).
 - C. A distinction must be maintained between the:
 - 1. 'Real You' (where volition resides; Ezek. 18:4c "The soul who sins will die.").
 - 2. Old self (genetically engineered STA; cf. Col. 3:9b "since you laid aside the old self/man with its practices").
 - 3. IHS and mind of Christ (producing the image of Christ).
 - D. The volition of the soul (the Real You) determines who rules the soul at any given moment (Gal.5:17, pres.act.subj. of ποιέω, *poieo*).
 - E. The origin of the three men.
 - 1. The Real You is immaterial, invisible, and eternal, and comes perfect and sinless from creation at physical birth. See the Doctrine of the Soul.
 - 2. The ISTA comes through procreation through genetic engineering and is therefore called "*flesh*" (Rom.7:14, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23. See the Doctrine of the OSN/STA).
 - 3. The new or inner man, which the IHS constructs out of Bible Doctrine in the positive believer (Rom.7:22; 13:14; Eph.4:24; Col.3:10; cf. Gal.4:19; Jn.15:4, 5, 7,10).
- II. The 'Real You' determines who the ruler of life at any given point (Rom.8:5).
 - A. As seen in the exhortations to walk by the Spirit and not the flesh (Gal.5:16, 17; cf. Rom.6:12).
 - B. All afferent impulses (5 senses) to the brain computer are either translated into efferent action in the body, i.e., sin or righteousness (Rom.6:13,16,19).
 - C. Neither the ISTA nor IHS can usurp authority over the Real You apart from volition (can only lust, entice, strive, etc.).
- III. When the OSN/STA rules the 'Real You'.
 - A. In the believer the OSN is put in the rulership spot when the volition sends out a command to the body to sin (Rom.7:8).
 - B. Paul uses himself to illustrate this process in Rom.7:7-11 "*sin came back to life*".
 - C. The sin that the believer commits under the FHS immediately places the flesh in control of the life.
 - D. The believer who is in this carnal state is said to be:
 - 1. Dead (Rom.7:9-11; 8:13; Jam.1:14,15).
 - 2. A slave to STA lusts (Rom.6:6,16).
 - 3. A prisoner of war (POW; Rom.7:23).
 - 4. Like the unbeliever.
 - 5. Having an affair with the STA (Jam.1:14,15).
 - 6. Deceived by lusts (Rom.7:11).

- E. Synonyms for the sin nature.
 - 1. Sin in the singular, with or without the definite article (Rom.7:17,18,20).
 - 2. Flesh, fleshly (Rom.8:8; 1Cor.3:1; Col.2:18).
 - 3. Mortal body (Rom.6:12).
 - 4. Old man (Rom.6:6; Eph.4:22; Col.3:9).
 - 5. Corruptible man (Rom.1:23).
 - 6. Corruptible seed (refers to the mechanics of transmission; 1Pet.1:23).
 - 7. Body of death (Rom.7:24).
 - 8. Body of sin (Rom.6:6).
 - F. As a spiritual POW, the believer enters evil, which includes (Eph.5:11; 6:12; Col.1:13; 1Jn.1:6; 2:11):
 - 1. Sins (Gal.5:19,21).
 - 2. Human good (Heb.6:1; 1Jn.3:12; cf. Rom.7:19,21).
 - 3. Doctrines of demons (Rom.1:18ff; 1Cor.1:21; 1Jn.4:5).
- IV. When the IHS and the new man rule the Real You.
- A. You do not fulfill the lusts of the flesh (Gal.5:16).
 - B. You keep the Law (Rom.8:4).
 - C. Hence you practice righteousness (Rom.6:13b, 16b-19).
 - D. You produce divine good (Rom.7:21).
 - E. You are constantly building up the new man (2Cor.4:16; Col.2:7).
 - F. You exhibit the production of the Holy Spirit (Gal.5:22, 23).
 - G. You isolate the STA (Rom.7:8b; 8:13; Gal.5:24).
 - H. Synonyms for this state.
 - 1. Alive (Rom.6:13; 7:9).
 - 2. FHS (Eph.5:18).
 - 3. Walking in the Spirit, light, or love (Gal.5:16; 1Jn.1:7; Eph.5:2).
 - 4. Slave to righteousness (Rom.6:16,18).
 - 5. The law of the Spirit of life (Rom.8:2).
 - 6. Imitators of God (Eph.5:1).
 - 7. Spiritual (1Cor.2:15).
 - I. Synonyms for the new man.
 - 1. Image (2Cor.3:18).
 - 2. Christ (Rom.13:14).
 - 3. New man (Eph.4:24).
 - 4. Inner man (Rom.7:22).
- V. Only by knowledge of doctrine can believers practice spirituality (Rom.6:17, 18) and hence, "walk in wisdom".
- VI. And it is not by the Law (Rom.6:14; cf. 7:8b).

- VII. Whenever the positive believer is under control of one of the two rulers, the other is seeking to influence the Real You.
- A. The flesh being hostile to all divine viewpoint (Rom.8:7; Gal.5:17).
 - B. Or the new man, who hates the works of the flesh (Rom.7:15; Gal.5:17).
- VIII. The issue for the believer who is carnal is found in Eph.5:14 (aor.a.imper. ἀνιστήμι, *anistemi*; cf. Rom.6:12).

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