

Men's Bible Journey

Romans 8 is central to Paul's teaching on the new life gained in reconciliation by God for men. God was "in Christ" reconciling the cosmos to himself. We are reconciled in the death of Jesus - BUT - we are being rescued (saved) through his life (not his death). It is the resurrected living Christ you is our savior - but our need is reconciliation, so that we may come to the Knowledge of God that is "in Christ" - his life as man. (For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. 2Co 4:6 RSV)

1. *God is. He is the only truly living one.*
2. *He is who he is. God determines all by his purpose and WILL. He determines to be God for us - for MAN.*
3. *God reveals himself (Godself) by means of himself - Jesus is God revealing - revelation. His revelation is true to himself - his acts are actual - dependable.*
4. *God exegetes himself John 1:18*
5. *Jesus is the image of God - the God determined only means of knowing God.*
6. *The acts of Jesus are true to God - revealing the One who is mystery and unknowable. God's goal for us is "in Christ Jesus". He (Jesus) absolutely fulfilled the Law - the WILL of God - as MAN. We are to live in him. (For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ (For rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person perhaps someone might possibly dare to die.) ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, because we have now been declared righteous by his blood, we will be saved through him from God's wrath. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, since we have been reconciled, will we be saved by his life? ¹¹ Not only this, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received this reconciliation. Rom 5:6 NET)*
7. *God is in Jesus redeeming Man - God's goal in "in Christ Jesus"! not Israel - not scripture - not some theory or doctrine - Jesus is in himself the way - the truth - the life. (You study the scriptures thoroughly because you think in them you possess eternal life, and it is these same scriptures that testify about me, ⁴⁰ but you are not willing to come to me so that you may have life. Joh 5:39 NET)*
8. *This is the life in his Spirit - the Holy Spirit is God - He is the Spirit of Christ. The flesh cannot produce the life God*
9. *God has determined to be among us in Jesus - his life is to be our life. ("Truly, truly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. ²⁶ For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself, ²⁷ and has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of man. ²⁸ Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice ²⁹ and come forth, those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment. Joh 5:25 RSV)*
10. *The flesh is powerless to produce this new life. Jesus in the Spirit is the new creation and produces life through the knowledge of God - this fulfills the Law.*