

URGENT

CIRCA 1st century
CIRCA ROME



R o m a n s

The fundamental issue of our time is not "what" is true but "how" do we know what is true.

Epistemology

How do we know?

- 1. We can't**
- 2. Reason**
- 3. Experience**
- 4. God has to tell us**

Everyone is an exclusivist...
Rational thought and action require it

Rom. 8:1-7 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit. Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.

Rom. 8:8-13 Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you. Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation — but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

Trinity

God is one being, three persons

**"Being" is the quality that makes you
what you are.**

**"Person" is the quality that makes you
who you are.**

Life in the Spirit
vs.
Life in the flesh

Rom. 8:1-4

**We have new life through the
Spirit's liberating work**

Rom. 8:5-8

**Compare and contrast between the
control of the Spirit and the control
of the flesh**

Rom. 8:5-7 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their **minds** set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their **minds** set on what the Spirit desires. The **mind** of sinful man is death, but the **mind** controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful **mind** is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.

Rom. 8:7-8 the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

Rom. 8:9-11

Life in the Spirit

**Baptism of the Spirit...Second
blessing...Have you received the
Holy Spirit?**

**We already have all of him...he is
getting more of us.**

**Rom. 8:10 But if Christ is in you,
your body is dead because of sin, yet
your spirit is alive because of
righteousness.**

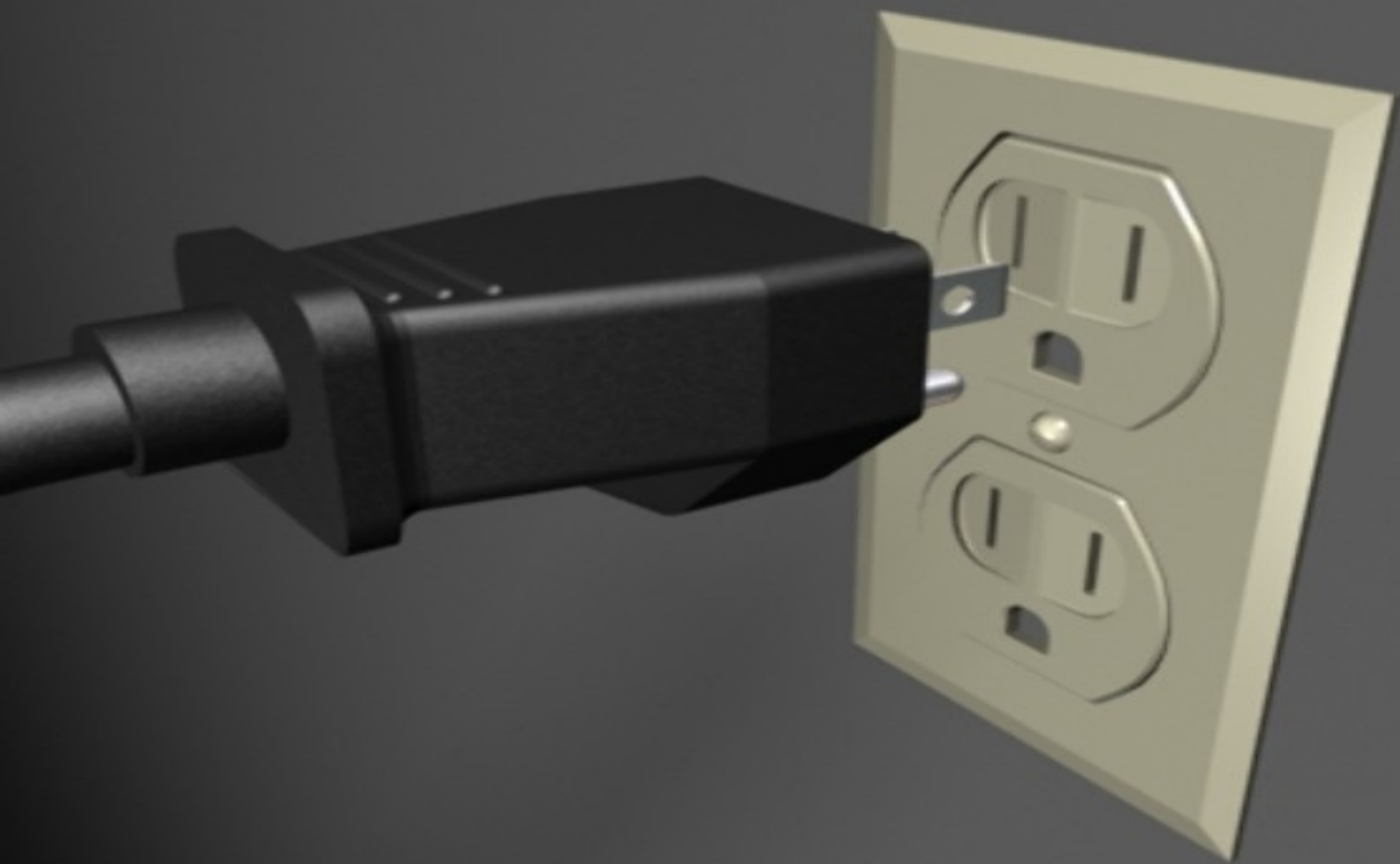
Romans 8:12-13

Our Obligation

- 1. We must put into effect the new life God gave us. Our response is not optional; it is necessary.**
- 2. This response is empowered by the Holy Spirit.**
- 3. There is no suggestion of sinless perfection in this life but there is an expectation of a settled direction.**

Liberty...

"There is no condemnation!"



**So it is not about earning his love...it
is about more fully experiencing and
expressing his life and power in us.**

A unique window

A protective wall

**Rom. 8:1 There is now no
condemnation for those who are in
Christ Jesus.**

**Rom. 8:13 If you live according to the
sinful nature, you will die, but if by the
Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of
the body you will live.**

**"Security without responsibility
breeds passivity, responsibility
without security leads to anxiety."**

Doug Moo

Rom. 8:13 For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live,