

**January 15, 2023**

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

**Rm. 8:3-4** *For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.* (NIV)

Since the beginning, God's law has always been in place. It began with one simple, yet straightforward law. **Gen. 2:15-17** *The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."* (NIV)

Now Paul makes reference to the law. It is God's standard that we continue to break because of the sin of Adam and man's fall. (Special note here: It is called the sin of Adam because Eve was not yet formed when God told Adam this.) This is what is meant by the law was weakened by the flesh. The law of God is perfect. We are not. Thus, God sent His own Son in the likeness of man (likeness of sinful flesh) to be a sin offering. This could be the one and only acceptable sin offering. Our sin had to be condemned in the flesh and so the righteous requirement of God's law could only be met by a perfect, sinless man, Jesus Christ. I like how someone once put it: The law could not defeat sin, it could only detect sin. Thus, one of the most impactful and powerful verses in all of God's word speaks to this very issue: **Isa. 53:6** *We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.* (NIV) Just as God's penalty for sin fell upon every person, so does God's redemption. He did not die for a select few. He died for us all! **1 John 2:2** *He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.* (NIV)

**Dear LORD, we praise and exalt You! You have given us eternal life through the sacrifice of Your Son. You have set us free from the penalty of sin and death. Hallelujah! In Jesus Name, Amen**