

**Spiritual Depression: Its Causes and Cure by Dr. Martin Lloyd-Jones**  
**Chapter 12: The Spirit of Bondage**  
**Romans 8:15-17**

**Rom 8:15-17** For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." (16) The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, (17) and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.

Lloyd-Jones – “No greater words than these have ever been written. They stand out even in a great chapter like this as an expression of truth which is quite unique. It is one of the most magnificent statements that is found anywhere in the whole realm and range of the Scriptures...”

Lloyd-Jones is very concerned that we would not just hear the sound of these words, but that we would understand them in their context. In this lesson he considers exactly what is the spirit of bondage spoken herein and then reviews its cure as set forth in this passage of towering import.

1. What problems are caused when a young Christian thinks that all must go well in this life?
  
2. “How easy it is to read the Scriptures and give a kind of nominal assent to the Truth and yet never to appropriate what it tells us!” What does this statement mean?
  - 3.1 According to Lloyd-Jones, what is this “spirit of bondage?”
  
  - 3.2 What are two passages of Scripture that deal with this bondage in particular?
  
  - 3.3 What are three ways that this bondage produces fear?
  
  - 4.1 Paul in Romans 8:15-17 cites four principles as remedies for this fear produced by bondage. What are those four principles that we must apply to our souls?
  
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