

# Life in the Age of the Spirit

Romans 8:1-25

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#### Introduction

- Three points: the age of the Spirit; the spirit of the age (or the spiritual age);
  the age to come
- · Context: theological

Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed (381 AD):

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets...

### **Romans 8:1-5**

- 1. The age of the Spirit
  - Last days/latter days
  - This age is prepared for by the Person and work of Jesus Christ.
  - The age of the Spirit progresses through the Person and work of the Holy Spirit.
  - · What characterizes this age? What is life in the age of the Spirit?

## **Romans 8:4-7**

- Living according to the Holy Spirit
- 2. The spirit of the age/spiritual age
  - · Spirit of the age: the worldview of the time and culture in which we live
  - · North American context: the spirit of the age is characterized by
  - · A subset of the spirit of the age is the spiritual age
  - Believers, not yet fully Christ-like and still sinful, live this spirit of the age
  - What characterizes this age? What is anti-life influenced by the spirit of this age?



### Romans 8:12-13

- 3. The age to come, and the eschatological Spirit
  - The age to come has future reference to the time after the return of Jesus Christ.

### **Romans 8:14-23**

- Though the age to come is a future blessing/reality, we are being prepared now for life in it then by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.
- · Notice the language.
- · What will life be like in the age to come?
- Such future fulfillment includes the redemption of our body.
- This redemption/liberation/freedom, pertains not only to people in the age to come.

### Conclusion

Romans 8:24-25