

ADULT CLASS APRIL 5, 2020

Romans 7 – The Law Brings Knowledge of Sin

# Overview of Romans…

## Chapter 1: God’s Power to Save; the Unrighteousness of the Gentiles.

## Chapter 2: Indictment of the Jews.

## Chapter 3: All Have Sinned, But by Faith in Christ All Can Be Righteous.

## Chapter 4: Example of Abraham’s Faith.

## Chapter 5: The Blessings of Justification; Christ is Greater Than Adam.

## Chapter 6: We Are Slaves of Righteousness.

## Chapter 7: The Law Brings Knowledge of Sin

## Chapter 8: There Is No Condemnation In Christ; We Are More Than Conquerors

# THE JEWISH CHRISTIAN AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THE LAW

## HE BEGINS WITH A PARALLEL TO BEING RELEASED FROM MARRIAGE.(1-3)

### Here Paul is speaking to Christians who came out of Judaism and he appeals to their knowledge of the law.

### This parallel is drawn to illustrate how law has dominion over those who live under it.

## NOT ONLY HAD THE LAW BEEN DONE AWAY WITH, THEY HAD DIED TO THE LAW (4-6)

### Now they can be married to Christ.

### They can now serve in newness of the Spirit which is far superior to serving in the oldness of the letter.

# THE LAW WASN’T SINFUL.(7-12)

## THE LAW DID NOT CAUSE THEM TO SIN.

### It revealed their actions as being sin.

### The Law did not cause Paul to covet. It helped him to understand what his actions really were.

### Divine Law does not produce sin, but sin uses the law to stir within us desires that go against God’s will.

## THERE WAS A TIME WHEN PAUL WAS ALIVE WITHOUT THE LAW. (9)

### When? Before he was accountable.

### Ultimately the commandment comes with maturity and understanding.

### The law is not sinful and it does not force people to sin.

### The law is holy and just.

# THE LAW CANNOT SAVE US FROM SIN.

## There are primarily two schools of thought about the meaning of this passage.

### Paul is speaking about his struggle as a Christian?

### He is speaking of his struggle as a Jew?

### As I’ve studied this passage, I’ve found myself alternating between the two.

### Reading Paul’s conclusion helps me to come to terms with all the questions I may have with this passage. – Rom. 7:24-8:2

## The context….

### The overall context of Romans:

#### We have all sinned. – Rom. 3:23

#### Justification is obtained by faith in Christ, not by keeping the Law of Moses. – Rom. 3:28-30

#### The promise to Abraham comes through faith, not the Law. – Rom. 4:13

#### Once we enter into this new relationship with Christ, sin is to no longer to have dominion over us. – Rom. 6:14

### The immediate context:

#### Paul's comments are especially to those who know the law- Rom. 7:1

#### Those once married to the Law, die to the law through Christ- Rom. 7:4

#### Those once held by the Law have been delivered from the law- Rom. 7:6

#### The law, though good, brought death not deliverance – Rom. 7:7-13

### Putting all of this together helps us understand Paul’s direction as he writes this passage.

#### We have all sinned.

#### The Law was not sufficient to take away our sins.

#### Once sins were committed under the law, there was this sense of being chained to them without hope of being released.

#### Now that we are no longer under the law, we can truly be free from sin and no longer be under its dominion.

## The contrast between the spiritual and the carnal.

### We make the choice to serve God (the spiritual) or serve sin (the carnal). – Rom. 6:16

### There is no possibility of serving the spiritual and the carnal at the same time.

### The Law was spiritual. It came from God.- Rom. 7:14

## There is a war being waged within us between the spiritual and the carnal. – Rom. 7:15; Jam. 4:1; 1 Pet. 2:11

### There is a battle which we face on a daily basis.

### There is however a difference between what a person desires to do in theory and what he actually does in practice. – Gal. 5:16-17

### If we always allow our body (flesh) to control our actions and decisions, we will never live a Godly life. – Jam. 1:14-15; 1 Jn 2:15-17

### When we give in to sin it enslaves us. – Rom. 7:16-17; Jn. 8:34

### Again, we see frustration. – Rom. 7:18

### Sin is personified. – Rom 7:20-21

### Even though Paul wanted to do right and please God, he had failed. – Rom. 7:22-23

## CHRIST SETS US FREE! – Rom. 7:24-25

### Paul was yearning for someone to deliver him from the body of death; this spiritual separation from God. God provided Christ.

### What the law could not do, Christ could. – Isa. 53:6; 2 Cor. 5:21; Gal. 5:1