

St. Paul's Letter to the Romans

“How do you stand before God? Sinner, Saint, or Something in between?”

Week 8: Romans 7:1-12

I. Romans 7:1-6, “Marriage as an Illustration”

1. How long does the Law demand that marriage last? (v 1-2)

2. How is this affirmed in other Scripture? Genesis 2:23-24; Matthew 19:3f

3. When a husband (or wife) dies, to what does this release the spouse? (v 3)

4. How is Paul using this accepted truth to illustrate points he has made in the previous chapter?

5. How does the Christian become dead to the law?

6. Having become dead, who now becomes the new spouse?

7. Note the additional twist in this illustration of marriage:
 - a) As in a marriage “passions” bring forth fruit (children), how is this used to show life under the Law? (v 5)

 - b) How is this used to show life in the new “marriage” to Christ? (v 4)

8. He concludes this thought of dying to sin and the Law, and living through and unto Christ, “so that we should serve in the newness of the spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.” (Rom 7:6)
How does the Apostle explain the “letter” and the “Spirit” in II Corinthians 3:6f?

II. Romans 7:7-12, “Is the Law Sin?”

9. What good does the Law serve? (v 7; see also 3:19-20)

10. Why does the Apostle Paul use the Ninth Commandment to illustrate his point? (v 7)

11. What does the commandment end up doing (because I am by nature sinful? (v 8)

12. In what sense was I alive apart from the Law? (v 9)

13. In what sense did the commandment kill me? (v 9)

14. In what sense was the commandment meant to bring or promise life? (v 10; Matt 19:16f)

15. How do we see this in the literature of the megachurch pastors?

16. How am I then deceived? (v 11)

17. Is my deception, and the sentence to death, the commandment's fault? (7:12)

Memory Verses for Today:

Romans 7:8, “But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead.”

Romans 7:10, “The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me.”