

ROMANS 6-8

THIS WEEK WE PICK UP IN CHAPTER 7 OF THE LETTER PAUL IS WRITING TO THE ROMAN CHURCH, FROM CORINTH IN BETWEEN 55-58 AD.

LAST WEEK IN CHAPTER 6 PAUL ESTABLISHES THAT WE NOW BEING CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST ARE DEAD **with Him IN his crucifixion**, THEREFORE WE ARE ALSO ALIVE IN HIS RESSURECTION

AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO FEELS LIKE THIS CONCEPT IS ONE OF THOSE “WHOAH” STONER MOMENTS, WHEN SOMETHING IS REALLY DEEP? WELL....IT’S TRUE **EXPLAIN BRIEFLY**

PAUL ALSO SAYS AT THE END OF CHAPTER 6 THAT WE ARE NO LONGER SLAVES TO SIN BUT SLAVES TO CHRIST.
EXPLAIN BRIEFLY

THE REVELATION THAT TO BE ALIVE IN CHRIST MEANS WE ARE NOT ONLY FREE FROM THE SIN ITSELF BUT ALSO FREE FROM THE POWER BEHIND IT

Romans 6:22-23 New International Version (NIV)

²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in^[a] Christ Jesus our Lord.

SO WE PICK IT UP IN CHAPTER 7

Romans 7:1-6 New International Version (NIV)

7 Do you not know, brothers and sisters—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law has authority over someone only as long as that person lives? **2** For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law that binds her to him. **3** So then, if she has sexual relations with another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress if she marries another man.

JUST LIKE THE LAW OF MARRIAGE ONLY APPLIES WITH THE LIVING, AS SO FOR THE LAW OF GOD

4 So, my brothers and sisters, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, **in order that we might bear fruit for God.** **5** For when we were in the realm of the flesh,^[a] the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in us, so that we bore fruit for death. **6** But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

EVERY GROWING CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDS THE EXPERIENCE OF ROMANS 6-7. ONCE WE TRULY LEARN HOW TO SUBMIT AND YIELD OUR LIVES TO CHRIST, WE START GETTING VICTORY OVER THE OLD HABITS OF THE FLESH.

AS WE BEGIN TO READ AND UNDERSTAND THE WORD OF GOD OUR MIND BEGINS TO CHANGE AS DO OUR DESIRES

WE START TO SEE DEEPER INTO OUR OWN HEARTS, AND WE DISCOVER SINS THAT WE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WERE THERE.

GOD'S HOLY LAW TAKES ON A NEW POWER AND WE BEGIN TO WONDER IF WE CAN EVER DO ANYTHING GOOD THERE HAS BEEN SOME OF US THAT HAVE EVEN MOVED INTO LEGALISM. SUBCONCIOUSLY WE KNOW WE ARE FAILING AT IT BUT WE START HOLDING EVERYONE ELSE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE LAW

WHAT IS LEGALISM? IT IS THE BELIEF THAT I CAN BECOME HOLY AND PLEASE GOD BY OBEYING LAWS. IT IS MEASURING SPIRITUALITY BY A LIST OF DO'S AND DON'T'S

THIS FAILS TO UNDERSTAND THE REAL PURPOSE OF GOD'S LAW AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LAW AND GRACE

WHAT PAUL IS SAYING IN VERSES 1-6 IS THIS: WE HAVE DIED TO THE LAW AND HAVE BEEN DELIVERED FROM IT

THIS DOES NOT MEAN WE LIVE A LIFE OF UNRIGHTOUSNESS OR A "WHATEVER" KIND OF LIFE

IN FACT, IF YOU ARE DEAD.....THEN YOUR DEAD....RAISED IN CHRIST, BUT DEAD TO SIN, AND DEAD TO THE LAW THAT CAUSED YOU TO SIN IN THE FIRST PLACE

THIS MEANS WE ARE NOW BORN AGAIN TO **SERVE** CHRIST AND BE JOINED TO HIM. IT IS NOT A LIFE OF INDEPENDENCE AND REBELLION, IT'S A LIFE OF OBEDIENCE AND NEWNESS OF LIFE

HIS LAW IS NOW WRITTEN ON OUR HEARTS AND WE ARE EMPOWERED TO LIVE OUT THIS NEW COVENANT LAW BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

SO WHAT GOOD IS THE LAW IF WE NO LONGER NEED IT?

Romans 7:7-11 New International Version (NIV)

⁷ What shall we say, then? Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.”^[a] ⁸ But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of coveting. For apart from the law, sin was dead. ⁹ Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died. ¹⁰ I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death. ¹¹ For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me, and through the commandment put me to death.

THE LAW REVEALS SIN AND OUR DESPERATE NEED FOR A SAVIOR

THE LAW AROUSES SIN LIKE A MAGNET ATTRACTS STEEL
SOMETHING ABOUT HUMAN NATURE CAUSES US TO REBEL
AGAINST LAWS AND RULES

THE LAW KILLS, THE PENALTY FOR SIN IS DEATH

SIN TAKES SOMETHING THAT IS GOOD (THE LAW) AND
SLAYS YOU AND I WITH IT. SOMETHING IS TERRIBLY WRONG
WITH THIS SET UP AND IT LEAVES US IN QUITE THE
PREDICAMENT.

NOW PAUL SAYS SOMETHING I CAN REALLY UNDERSTAND

Romans 7:14-24 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁴ We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. ¹⁵ I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. ¹⁶ And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. I FEEL YOU PAUL, DOING WHAT I DON'T WANT TO DO AND NOT DOING WHAT I WANT TO DO.

THE LAW IS GOOD

¹⁷ As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸ For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature.^[a] For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. THE STRUGGLE IS REAL, BUT YOU SEE THAT PAUL IS LITERALLY SAYING THAT IT'S THE SIN THAT LIVE IN HIS FLESHLY NATURE SINNING,

²¹ So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²² For in my inner being I delight in God's law; ²³ but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?

EVEN THOUGH THE LAW IS GOOD, IT CAN NOT:

CHANGE YOU

THE LAW WAS GIVEN TO REVEAL GOD'S HOLINESS TO US. IT HELPS US SEE OUR NEED FOR A SAVIOR.

THE OLD NATURE KNOWS NO LAW, THE NEW NATURE NEED NO LAW!

THE LAW CANNOT TRANSFORM THE OLD NATURE, IT CAN ONLY REVEAL IT. LOVE, GRACE, AND MERCY ARE THE INGREDIENTS OF TRANSFORMATION

THE LAW CANNOT ENABLE YOU TO DO GOOD

THE ONLY WAY YOU AND I TURN FROM THE OLD WAY OF LIVING AND LIVE FOR CHRIST IS BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. IN FACT, THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WALKING WITH GOD AND JUST BEING A NICE PERSON.

PAUL IS SAYING THAT EVEN HE...THE MAN THAT WROTE MOST OF THE NEW TESTAMENT...A GENERAL OF THE FAITH CAN NOT FULLY OBEY GOD'S LAW, AND EVEN WHEN HE DID, EVIL WAS PRESENT WITH HIM.

THE LAW CANNOT SET YOU FREE

OUR WILLPOWER IS NOT ENOUGH, WE MAY DO WELL FOR A WHILE, BUT THEN.....WE FALL AGAIN

JUST BECAUSE WE KNOW SOMETHING IS A SIN OR BAD FOR US, DOESN'T MAKE IT ANY EASIER TO SAY NO...CAN I GET AN AMEN?

IT IS OUR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST THAT SETS US FREE

John 8:36 New International Version (NIV)

³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

PAUL CALLS HIMSELF A WRETCHED MAN, IN THE GREEK THE WORD IS USED TO INDICATE SOMEONE WHO IS EXHAUSTED AFTER BATTLE

WHAT CAN BE MORE EXHAUSTING THAN EXERTING ALL YOUR ENERGY TRYING TO LIVE A GOOD LIFE ONLY TO DISCOVER THAT YOUR BEST STILL ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH

Romans 7:25 New International Version (NIV)

²⁵ Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in my sinful nature^[a] a slave to the law of sin.

SO WE SEE HOW IT IS: IN MY MIND, I REALLY WANT TO OBEY GOD, BUT BECAUSE OF MY SIN NATURE, I AM A SLAVE TO SIN

IF I TRULY DIE TO MYSELF AND UNITE MYSELF WITH CHRIST THEN I AM NO LONGER UNDER THE SIN'S AUTHORITY AND AM NOW ABLE TO DRAW POWER FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT

CHAPTER 8

PAUL TAKES A WHOLE CHAPTER TO EXPLAIN THIS VICTORY THAT IS GIVEN TO US IN CHRIST

Romans 8:1-4 New International Version (NIV)

8 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you^[a] free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh,^[b] God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering.^[c] And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ 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.

AMEN!! WE HAVE FREEDOM FROM JUDGEMENT!!

THE LAW CANNOT CLAIM YOU

OUR LIFE IS NOW LIVED IN THE SPIRIT. WE ARE UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP AND CLAIMED BY CHRIST

THE LAW CAN NO LONGER CONDEMN YOU

JESUS ALREADY SUFFERED THE CONDEMNATION FOR US ON THE CROSS. CONDEMNATION COMES FROM THE DEVIL

THE LAW CANNOT CONTROL YOU

WE ARE DEAD, CONTROLLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD THE FATHER AND JESUS THE SON

THIS IS HOW WE STAY THE COURSE, STAY CLOSE TO THEM (TRINITY)

CLOSE