

## Dead but Joined to Christ

### Romans 7

- Paul has not been to R when he writes, in Acts 20:2-3. He makes it there ~4yrs later
- Church comprised of Jewish Christians & Gentile Christians – clash of cultures now one in Christ
- Ch. 6 discusses our relationship to sin
- Ch. 7 discusses our relationship to the Law
- Law: in each v. 1-14; 35x in context: 7:1-8:4

#### **1. Temporary Nature of the Law – Romans 7:1-6**

- P uses marriage to illustrate relationship of Christ & church in 1 Cor. 6:17, 2 Cor. 11:2, Eph. 5:22-23
- 1: Or – joins previous thought; death cancels legal obligations
- 2: married: only time GK word: *under + man*
- 3: married – same word in both instances; some trans. “live with” in 1<sup>st</sup> – SAME WORD!
- 4: in a sense, Jews were married to the Law
- 5: before we became Christians, we could not bring forth “fruit for God” but only “fruit for death”
- 6: oldness of letter: attempted to be justified under a legal/works system
- Newness of spirit: to do God’s Will with joy knowing we have been justified

#### **2. The Goodness of the Law versus the Weakness of Man – Romans 7:7-25**

- 7: not equating the law to sin – God forbid!
- 8: Law did not make him covet. Villain is sin! Opportunity – military term – starting point
- 9: P born sinless, learned the Law and knew about sin – he was alive until he reached the age of accountability, then sin came in > died
- 10: death resulted when he failed to keep commandment
- 11: deceived – to beguile thoroughly; proof: Satan deceived P into thinking persecuting v
- 12: holy – given by a holy God
- 13: law given so people could see how “utterly sinful” sin was! God – Gen. 50:19-20
- 14-25 difficult section, frequently misunderstood
- 14: carnal – Latin word for flesh; problem w/ self not the Law

- 15: 3 diff. words: doing; increasing, interchangeable
- 16: Law tells what not to do → do not want to disobey → find myself doing said thing → feel guilty → agree with the Law
- 17: dwells: make one's home in
- 18: combatting the flesh without the help of God's Spirit
- 19: did some good, couldn't do all the good
- 20: similar to v. 20
- 21: evil always present – never alone, 1 Pet. 5:8
- 22: on one hand: a conscientious Jew would and could say this
- 23: other hand: est'd tendency of his mind was to want to do good
- 23: like making a civil war inside himself. Outcome? Becoming a prisoner
- 24: wretched: miserable, distressed, exhausted from trials and troubles; needed a better "Someone" to deliver him
- 25: Coffman: outburst of praise like a stroke of lightning, illuminating the darkness of this ... chapter; futility of spiritual condition w/o Christ

### Lessons:

1. Just as the wife is freed from marriage to her husband once he dies, we have been freed from our marriage to the old Law when it died upon the cross, Col. 2:14. We ought to quit trying to live with a dead spouse/Law.
2. The Law reveals what sin is but it does not make us sin. Instead, Satan looks for every opportunity to cause us to sin. Be strong and remain faithful.
3. Without Christ in our lives, we are wretched, lost, and without hope!

© 2021 Justin D. Reed  
 P. O. Box 292 · Woodbury TN 37190  
[thejustinreedshow.com/bibleresources](http://thejustinreedshow.com/bibleresources)  
 PowerPoint number 122 accompanies this lesson, online

March 3, 2021 PM Wood Church of Christ - Facebook