

# Christian Combat: You Against YourSELF!

## Romans 6-7

Pastor Jason Dennett's Notes

### I. The Flesh: It's Your **ENEMY!**

### II. The Flesh: You Have **VICTORY!**

#### I. The Flesh: It's Your **ENEMY!**

**Rom 7:15-25 NLT** - "I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate...17 So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it. 18 And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. 19 I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. 20 But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it. 21 I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. 22 I love God's law with all my heart. 23 But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. 24 Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? 25 Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord..."

- "**Flesh**" is the Greek word "**σάρξ**" or "**sarx**" and means "the sinful human nature, the earthly nature of man, apart from God's influence, and therefore it is prone to sin and opposed to the Creator." This is the part of

#### • NEW TESTAMENT **DECLARES IT'S YOUR ENEMY:**

**Gal 5:16-15 NKJV** - "I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish."

- **Gal 5:16-25 NLT** - "So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. 17 The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good

intentions. 18 But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses. 19 When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, 21 envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

**A "guine pig" in the house...**

- **Rom 8:5-8 NKJV** - "For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God."
- **Rom 8:5-9 NLT** - "Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. 6 So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. 7 For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. 8 That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God."

**How Eskimos hunt wolves...**

## • OLD TESTAMENT **DEPICTS** ITS YOUR ENEMY:

- **"CARNAL CANAANITES" - Deut 7:1-5** - "When the Lord your God brings you into the land which you go to possess, and has cast out many nations before you...you shall conquer them and utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them nor show mercy to them. Nor shall you make marriages with them. You shall not give your daughter to their son, nor take their daughter for your son. For they will turn your sons away from following Me, to serve other gods; so the anger of the Lord will be aroused against you and destroy you suddenly. But thus you shall deal with them: you shall destroy their altars, and break down their sacred pillars, and cut down their wooden images, and burn their carved images with fire." (Samson?!?)

**A boy was fishing with "biting worms"...**

## II. The Flesh: You Have **VICTORY!**

**Rom 6:6-7, 11-13 NLT** - "We know that **our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives.** We are **no longer slaves to sin.** 7 For when we died with Christ **we were set free from the power of sin...** So you also should **consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God** through Christ Jesus. 12 Do not let sin control the way you live;\* do not give in to sinful desires. 13 **Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin.** Instead, **give yourselves completely to God**, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So **use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right** for the glory of God."

• **Practically: STARVE IT!!**

- **1Jn 2:16** - "All that is in the world, the **lust of the flesh**, the **lust of the eyes**, and the **pride of life**, is not of the Father but of this world."

**"Siege Warfare"...***cut off the supply to the enemy!*

*This week in 1813: the Battle of Vitoria was fought during the Peninsular War, breaking Napoleon's power in Spain. This week in 1815 he abdicated the throne as the "French Emperor."*

- **2 dogs inside of you: ...which one are you feeding!?!?**

- **Matt 56:29-30 NLT** - "So if your eye—even your good eye — causes you to lust, **gouge it out and throw it away.** It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your hand—even your stronger hand —causes you to sin, **cut it off and throw it away.** It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

*FACE BOOK? COMPUTER? TELEVISION?*

*RELATIONSHIPS? JOB?....*

• **Spiritually: OVERCOME IT!!**

- **Step #1 - "REALIZE"** - "We know that **our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives.** We are **no longer slaves to sin.** 7 For when we died with Christ **we were set free from the power of sin**

*"..lose it's power" is the Greek word "kartargeo" meaning "to be stripped of power, made impotent, loss of strength and control"*

*This week in 1945: Japanese resistance*

on Okinawa was finally crushed, less than three months after U.S. troops had landed there - their last stepping-stone before the assault on Japan's main islands in World War II.

Step #2 - **"RECKON"** - So you also should **consider** **yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God** through Christ Jesus.

"consider" is the Greek word "logizomai" meaning "to calculate something, to add it up and come to a solution."

It's your **IDENTITY!**

**Gal 5:24-25 NLT** - "Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives."

**Rom 8:13 NLT** - "...if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live."

Step #3 - **"RUN"** - **Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin.** Instead, **give yourselves completely to God**, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So **use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right** for the glory of God."

This is speaking of **APPLICATION**. Take the truth of this principle and put it into **ACTION** in your life. **Realize** it's true, **Reckon** it so in your life personally, and then **Run** with in practically.....**APPROPRIATE** this truth into your daily life!

Like a **Prisoner** in a jail...

Like a **Deposit** in a bank...

**"Jumbo" the Elephant** was the largest animal in captivity in the Barnum & Bailey circus...