

We Died to the Power of the Law

Rom 7:1-13

1 Or do you not know, brothers— for I am speaking to those who know the law— that **the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives**? 2 For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. 3 Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress. 4 Likewise, my brothers, **you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead**, in order that we may bear fruit for God. 5 For **while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members** to bear fruit for death. 6 But **now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive**, so that **we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code**.

7 ¶ What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! **Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin**. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." 8 But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For **apart from the law, sin lies dead**. 9 I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. 10 The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. 11 For **sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me**. 12 So the law is holy, and **the commandment is holy and righteous and good**. 13 Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was **sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin**, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure. –ESV

Conjunctions join clauses, sentences and phrases to show a continuation of thought:

Coordinating conjunctions list

- for
- and
- nor
- but
- or
- yet
- so

Correlative conjunctions list

- either/or
- neither/nor
- not only/but also
- as/as
- both/and
- whether/or

Subordinating conjunctions list

- after
- although
- as soon as
- because
- before
- by the time
- in case
- now that
- since
- unless
- when
- whether or not
- while

Conjunctive adverbs list

- after all
- besides
- consequently
- finally
- however
- nevertheless
- then
- therefore

Conjunctions used in Romans, up to the current text, joining thoughts and chapters:

- 1:8 first; 1:16 for; 1:18 for; 1:24 therefore; 1:28 and;
- 2:1 therefore; 2:11 for; 2:12 for; 2:17 but; 2:25 for; 2:26 so; 2:27 then;
- 3:1 then; 3:5 but; 3:9 what then; 3:19 now; 3:21 but; 3:27 then
- 4:1 what then; 4:4 now; 4:13 for; 4:16 that; 4:22;

- 5:1 therefore; 5:6 for; 5:12 therefore; 5:15 but; 5:16 and; 5:17 for; 5:18 therefore;
- 6:1 what...then; 6:5 then; 6:12 Let not sin therefore; 6:15 what then; 6:20 for; 6:22 but.

Therefore!...everything in Romans up to this point is connected to one overall theme: the law and grace, i.e. the law versus grace, the old covenant versus the new covenant.

Rom 7:6 But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code. –ESV

The Law of Moses (torah mosheh) is contained in the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible. The last four, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy, cover most of the law. The law basically divides into civil, criminal, constitutional, ecclesiastical, and ceremonial, essentially covering all of everyday Jewish life. The Torah contains 613 rules/laws (365- and 248+)

“The Talmud, Hebrew: תַּלְמוּד, Romanized: *Talmūd*, lit. 'teaching') is the central text of Rabbinic Judaism and the primary source of Jewish religious law (*halakha*) and Jewish theology. Until the advent of modernity, in nearly all Jewish communities, the Talmud was the centerpiece of Jewish cultural life and was foundational to "all Jewish thought and aspirations", serving also as "the guide for the daily life" of Jews

The Talmud has two components: the Mishnah (משנה, c. 200 CE), a written compendium of the Oral Torah; and the Gemara (גמרא, c. 500 CE), an elucidation of the Mishnah and related Tannaitic writings that often ventures onto other subjects and expounds broadly on the Hebrew Bible. The term "Talmud" may refer to either the Gemara alone, or the Mishnah and Gemara together.” --Wikipedia

So, why the law?

Rom 3:20 **For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are. --NLT**

Rom 4:15 For the law brings wrath, but **where there is no law there is no transgression. --ESV**

Rom 5: 20 **The law was added so that the trespass might increase.** But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, 21 so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. --NIV(84)

Rom 7:7 ¶ What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! **Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law.** For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "Do not covet." --NIV(84)

Gal 3:9¶ **Why, then, was the law given?** It was given alongside the promise to show people their sins. But the law was designed to last only until the coming of the child who was promised. God gave his law through angels to Moses, who was the mediator between God and the people. --NLT

Gal 3:24 Let me put it another way. **The law was our guardian until Christ came;** it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. -- NLT

Gal 3:24 **Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ**, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But **after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.** --AV

1Tim 1:8 We know that the law is good when used correctly. **9 For the law was not intended for people who do what is right.** It is for people who are lawless and rebellious, who are ungodly and sinful, who consider nothing sacred and defile what is holy, who kill their father or mother or commit other murders. 10 The law is for people who are sexually immoral, or who practice homosexuality, or are slave traders, liars, promise breakers, or who do anything else that contradicts the wholesome teaching 11 that comes from the glorious Good News entrusted to me by our blessed God. --NLT

What shall we then say?

Eze 33:10 ¶ "Son of man, say to the house of Israel, 'This is what you are saying: "Our offences and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. **How then can we live?"**' 11 Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?' 12 "Therefore, son of man, say to your countrymen, 'The righteousness of the righteous man will not save him when he disobeys, and the wickedness of the wicked man will not cause him to fall when he turns from it. The righteous man, if he sins, will not be allowed to live because of his former righteousness.' --ESV

Jn 20:29 Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; **blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**" 30 Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But **these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.** --NIV(84)

Jn 4:23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the **true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth**, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. --ESV, Jn 4:24; 14:17; 15:26; 16:13; Eph 1:13; 5:9; 2Thes 2:13; 1Pet 1:22; 1Jn 4:6; 5:6 -- various translations

Rom 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "**The righteous shall live by faith.**" --ESV

Gal 3:11 Now it is evident that **no one is justified before God by the law**, for "The righteous shall live by faith." --ESV

Heb 10:38 but **my righteous one shall live by faith**, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him." 39 But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, **but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.** 11:1 ¶ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2 For by it the people of old received their commendation. --ESV

"Wisdom is the right use of knowledge. To know is not to be wise. Many men know a great deal, and are all the greater fools for it. There is no fool so great a fool as a knowing fool. But to know how to use knowledge is to have wisdom." — Spurgeon

Key:

- 1) BOLD is for emphasis.
- 2) [Brackets] are my insertions.
- 3) NT- New Testament.
- 4) OT- Old Testament.
- 5) Books and references
 - a) Anthony Hoekema, "The Four Major Cults", Eerdmans, Grand Rapids, 1974
 - b) Frank S. Mead, "Handbook of Denominations in the United States", Abington, Nashville, 1980, 7th Edition
 - c) Irvine Robertson, "What the Cults Believe", Moody Press, Chicago, 1983
 - d) James Strong, "The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible", Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, TN, 1990
 - e) K.L. Brooks & I. Robertson, "The Spirit of Truth and The Spirit of Error", Moody Press, Chicago, 3rd Edition, 1985
 - f) "Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary", Merriam-Webster, Incorporated, Springfield, Massachusetts, latest edition
 - g) "Online Bible Strong's", Online Bible Edition, V6.10, Larry Pierce, Ontario Canada, 1987-2023
 - h) "Online Bible Greek Lexicon", Online Bible Edition, V6.10, Larry Pierce, Ontario Canada, 1987-2023
 - i) R. Merrill F. Unger, K. Harrison, et al. (editor), "The New Unger's Bible Dictionary", Moody Press, Chicago, IL, 1957, editor revised edition 1988
 - j) Walter Martin, "Kingdom of the Cults", Bethany House, Minneapolis, 2003
 - k) William Evans, S. Maxwell Coder editor "The Great Doctrines of the Bible" 1912, enlarged edition 1974, sixth printing 1978 Moody Press, Chicago, IL
- 6) Bible translations
 - a) **AV is KJV- Authorized Version or King James Version 1611-1769.**
 - b) **ESV- English Standard Version 2001.**
 - c) **NIV(84)- New International Version[©] 1978.**
 - d) **NLT- New Living Translation 1996.**

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