

Romans 7:7-14 (AMP)

⁷ What then do we conclude? Is the Law identical with sin? Certainly not! Nevertheless, if it had not been for the Law, I should not have recognized sin *or* have known its meaning. [For instance] I would not have known about covetousness [would have had no consciousness of sin or sense of guilt] if the Law had not [repeatedly] said, You shall not covet *and* have an evil desire [for one thing and another].

⁸ But sin, finding opportunity in the commandment [to express itself], got a hold on me *and* aroused *and* stimulated all kinds of forbidden desires (lust, covetousness). For without the Law sin is dead [the sense of it is inactive and a lifeless thing].

⁹ Once I was alive, but quite apart from *and* unconscious of the Law. But when the commandment came, sin lived again and I died (was sentenced by the Law to death).

¹⁰ And the very legal ordinance which was designed *and* intended to bring life actually proved [to mean to me] death.

¹¹ For sin, seizing the opportunity *and* getting a hold on me [by taking its incentive] from the commandment, beguiled *and* entrapped *and* cheated me, and using it [as a weapon], killed me.

¹² The Law therefore is holy, and [each] commandment is holy and just and good.

¹³ Did that which is good then prove fatal [bringing death] to me? Certainly not! It was sin, working death in me by using this good thing [as a weapon], in order that through the commandment sin might be shown up clearly to be sin, that the

extreme malignity and immeasurable sinfulness of sin might plainly appear.

¹⁴ We know that the Law is spiritual; but I am a creature of the flesh [carnal, unspiritual], having been sold into slavery under [the control of] sin.

Roamin' Thru Romans-Part 24

A detailed study/analysis of the Book—Sunday Morning Series

May we stand please...I will read Vv. 1-6 alone...

Scripture Reading: Romans 7:7—14 (all read)

Introduction: Compare chapter 6 & 7...

Chapter 6 we learned that we are set free from the **PENALTY** of sin & the **POWER** of sin!

The latter CONTINUES into chapter 7—we are no longer under the **POWER** of SIN!

Romans 7 may be divided into three major parts as follows:

- A. The Comparison of the Law (Romans 7:1-6)
- B. The **Character** of the Law (Romans 7:7-14) (**today**)
- C. The Conflict in the Law (Romans 7:15-25)

Subject: “The Character of the Law”

The good *character* of the law is amplified here to *counter the idea* that the law was faulty in character.

I. **The Charge Against the Law (Romans 7:7)**

“Is the law sin? God forbid” (Romans 7:7).

Paul strongly defends the *character* of the law.

The removing of the law as an obligation in salvation caused some to suspect the character of the law to be bad.

Otherwise, it would not be removed in the matter of salvation.

Paul, however, corrects that misguided thinking in this section and shows that the law is not sinful just because it does not save the soul.

II. **The Clarification of the Law (Romans 7:7-14)**

“Is the law sin? God forbid” (Romans 7:7).

Paul not only states his strong objection to the accusation that the *law* might be faulty, but he also gives some details about the *law's* good character.

There are 4 statements that reveal the character and clarification of the Law: (A—D):

A. **The excellence of the law.**

The question *“Is the law sin?” (Romans 7:7)* is answered forcefully in the negative here.

The law is excellent in character.

A few character attributes are cited by Paul in this passage.

“The law is holy” (Romans 7:12).

“The law is... just” (Romans 7:12).

“The law is... good” (Romans 7:12).

“The law is spiritual” (Romans 7:14).

It is not *“carnal” (Romans 7:14)* which is the opposite of spiritual.

The law does not pamper the flesh but exalts the spirit. It emphasizes the sacred.

B. **The educating by the law.**

One of the valuable works of the law is that it educates about sin.

We note a few things in which the law educates mankind.

"I had not known sin, but by the law" ([Romans 7:7](#)).

"Sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence [lust—evil passion]" ([Romans 7:8](#)).

"Sin... deceived me... working death in me by that which is good" ([Romans 7:11, 13](#)).

"Sin revived, and I died" ([Romans 7:9](#)).

"Sin... slew me" ([Romans 7:11](#)).

"Sin... working death in me" ([Romans 7:13](#)).

The law informs mankind that sin slays.

C. **The enforcement by the law.**

"I was alive without the law once; but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died... the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death" ([Romans 7:9, 10](#)).

The law helps to convict the sinner of his guilt.

"I was alive" in thinking my sin was acceptable, but then came "the commandment" and the sinfulness of my sin was exposed.

Thus, I was convicted and realized that instead of life/good, sin was wrong and was giving me *death* instead of life.

• **Then finally...**

D. **The evaluation by the law.** "That sin by the commandment might become exceedingly sinful" ([Romans 7:13](#)).

The law does not water down the evil of sin but does the opposite.

It shows how evil sin really is.

Closing: So, we will stop here for today!

Do you know this Jesus that the Book of Romans so clearly teaches us about?

Have your sins ever shown up in you (guilty)?

If not, will you accept Him today?

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*This outline borrowed from: *Analytical Bible Expositor – Romans*. Other portions of this sermon were taken from various sources and commentaries.