

Roamin' Thru Romans-Part 25

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

May we stand please...

Scripture Reading: Romans 7:15—25 (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)
- C. The Conflict in the Law (Romans 7:15-25) (today)

The Conflict for the Law

Paul presents a *conflict* which the law cannot solve.

It shows the weakness of the law though the law is a good thing.

I. **The Character of the Conflict** (Romans 7:15, 19)

Romans 7:15 (KJV)

¹⁵ For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

Romans 7:19 (KJV)

¹⁹ For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

This is the typical struggle of the two natures in the believer.

When a person is redeemed, he is given a new nature, but the old nature is not removed.

Hence there will be a battle in the believer between the old and new nature. *"The flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary the one to the other; so that ye cannot do the things that ye would"* ([Galatians 5:17](#)).

II. **The Consenting in the Conflict** (Romans 7:16)

"If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good" ([Romans 7:16](#)).

How does Paul consent to the law in this struggle?

"In hating it and condemning sin, he does the same what the law does, for it also condemns sin. In this way he consents to the law that it is good" (Arno C. Gaebelien).

III. **The Cause of the Conflict** (Romans 7:17, 20)

Romans 7:17 (KJV)

¹⁷ Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

Romans 7:20 (KJV)

²⁰ Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

It is the *cause* of the conflict as is seen in the case of Ishmael (type of the flesh) and Isaac (type of the Spirit).

"He that was born after the flesh [Ishmael] persecuted him that was born after the Spirit [Isaac], even so it is now" (Galatians 4:29; cp. Genesis 21:9).

Sin is the cause of the conflict. Sin always causes conflicts.

Sin does not bring tranquility, but it brings troubles.

IV. The Contention in the Conflict (Romans 7:21)

"I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me" (Romans 7:21).

Here is the battle of the believer. When he is redeemed, his desires change; he wants to do good.

However, the old nature does not give up easily and will oppose the desire to do good.

The old nature will contend every holy ambition and desire of the new nature. *"The flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary the one to the*

other; so that ye cannot do the things that ye would" (Galatians 5:17).

This battle often shows up in families and even in our churches as well as in society and the world.

V. The Consecration in the Conflict (Romans 7:22)

"I delight in the law of God after the inward man" (Romans 7:22).

Here the new nature speaks, for the old nature does not delight in anything of God, especially the law of God which is so opposed to the old nature.

The *"law of God"* here is not the Mosaic law but the *"moral law"* (Carlson). But in spite of being consecrated to the law of God, the new nature still experiences opposition and trouble from the old nature.

Salvation does not rid us of conflicts, of battles, and of opposition.

VI. The Captivity from the Conflict (Romans 7:23)

"I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members" (Romans 7:23).

Paul speaks of various laws in this section of Romans 7.

- There is "*the law*" ([Romans 7:16](#)) which is the Mosaic law.
- The "*law*" ([Romans 7:21](#)) which speaks of the principle of action.
- The "*law of God*" ([Romans 7:22](#)) which is the moral law.
- The "*law of my mind*" ([Romans 7:23](#)) which is the convictions of the believer.
- The "*law of sin*" ([Romans 7:22](#)) which speaks of evil.
- And there is "*another law*" ([Romans 7:23](#)) which is the law of the flesh which is in league with the "*law of sin.*"
- The "*another law*" brings him into captivity of the "*law of sin*" which is another way of saying that sin has gained control of him through yielding to it.

This captivity also speaks of addiction to doing evil.

As an example, habitual liars simply manifest being captive by the "*law of sin.*"

VII. **The Confession in the Conflict** ([Romans 7:18, 24](#))

Romans 7:18 (KJV)

¹⁸ For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.

Romans 7:24 (KJV)

²⁴ O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

There is no self-esteem in this *confession* but there is the integrity of a man who sees the utter corruption that is in his old nature and what it does to one when it dominates a person.

When we view standards of Divine holiness, we must cry out, "*O wretched man that I am!*"

VIII. **The Complaint in the Conflict** ([Romans 7:18, 24](#))

Romans 7:18 (KJV)

¹⁸ For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.

Romans 7:24 (KJV)

²⁴ O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

This is the *complaint* of one who has not learned that victory is in Jesus Christ.

It is the *complaint* of one who is trying to win the victory over evil through the flesh.

We must have the power of Jesus Christ, or we will never have victory over the flesh.

The law will not gain us victory.

IX. **The Conquering in the Conflict** ([Romans 7:25](#))

"I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord" ([Romans 7:25](#)).

This statement is elliptical in that words are implied that mean that the deliverer from *"the body of this death"* ([Romans 7:24](#)) and from the problem of not being able to do right is *"Jesus Christ our Lord."*

Christ not only saves us but gives us the strength to overcome evil in our lives.

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?

Who are you *married* to dear friend?"

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