Encounter Church Sermon Notes

September 13, 2026 — Pastor John Vernon

ENCOUNTER CHURCH

Arousing Bad From Something Good

Romans 7:7–13

1 — Romans 7:7–13

7 Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful? Of course not! In
fact, it was the law that showed me my sin. I would never have known that
coveting is wrong if the law had not said, “You must not covet.” 8 But sin used
this command to arouse all kinds of covetous desires within me! If there were
no law, sin would not have that power. 9 At one time I lived without
understanding the law. But when I learned the command not to covet, for
instance, the power of sin came to life, 10 and I died. So I discovered that the
law’s commands, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death
instead. 11 Sin took advantage of those commands and deceived me; it used
the commands to kill me. 12 But still, the law itself is holy, and its commands
are holy and right and good. 13 But how can that be? Did the law, which is
good, cause my death? Of course not! Sin used what was good to bring about
my condemnation to death. So we can see how terrible sin really is. It uses
God’s good commands for its own evil purposes.

2 — Romans 7:5

5 When we were controlled by our old nature, sinful desires were at work
within us, and the law aroused these evil desires that produced a harvest of
sinful deeds, resulting in death.

3 — Romans 7:7

7 Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful?

4 — Romans 7:7

7 …Of course not! In fact, it was the law that showed me my sin.

5

“Me Genoito” — “Of course not! Of course not!”

6 — Romans 3:20

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.

7 — Romans 4:15

15 For the law always brings punishment on those who try to obey it. (The only way to avoid breaking the law is to have no law to break!)

8 — Romans 7:7

7 …it was the law that showed me my sin.

9 — Romans 2:14–15

14 Even Gentiles, who do not have God’s written law, show that they know his law when they instinctively obey it, even without having heard it. 15 They demonstrate that God’s law is written in their hearts, for their own conscience and thoughts either accuse them or tell them they are doing right.

10 — Romans 7:7

7 …I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, “You must not covet.”

11 — Philippians 3:3

3 For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort.

12 — Romans 7:8

8 But sin used this command to arouse all kinds of covetous desires within me!

13



14 — Romans 7:8

8 …If there were no law, sin would not have that power.

15 — Romans 5:12

12 When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam’s sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.

16 — Romans 5:13

13 Yes, people sinned even before the law was given.

17

Imputed: To ascribe or blame an action, motive, or fault to someone.

18 — Romans 7:9–11

9 At one time I lived without understanding the law. But when I learned the command not to covet, for instance, the power of sin came to life, 10 and I died. So I discovered that the law’s commands, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death instead. 11 Sin took advantage of those commands and deceived me; it used the commands to kill me.

19 — Romans 7:9

9 At one time I lived without understanding the law.

20 — Philippians 3:5–6

5 …I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. 6 …as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.

21 — Romans 7:10

10 …So I discovered that the law’s commands, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death instead.

22 — Romans 7:12–13

12 But still, the law itself is holy, and its commands are holy and right and good. 13 But how can that be? Did the law, which is good, cause my death? Of course not! Sin used what was good to bring about my condemnation to death. So we can see how terrible sin really is. It uses God’s good commands for its own evil purposes.

23 — Psalm 19:7–11

7 The instructions of the Lord are perfect, reviving the soul. The decrees of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. 8 The commandments of the Lord are right, bringing joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are clear, giving insight for living. 9 Reverence for the Lord is pure, lasting forever. The laws of the Lord are true; each one is fair. 10 They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold. They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb. 11 They are a warning to your servant, a great reward for those who obey them.

24 — Psalm 119:11

11 I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

25 — Romans 7:6

6 But now we have been released from the law, for we died to it and are no longer captive to its power. Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the new way of living in the Spirit.

26 — Romans 8:4, 10

4 He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit… 10 And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God.

27

Attempting to follow God’s law will never save you, nor will trying to follow whatever religious rules which may have been ingrained in you across your life.

28

Trusting in Christ alone will save you. He fulfilled the law of God perfectly on your behalf and paid the price of forgiveness of your sin.

29

Your faith in Christ is the only way of salvation. Living in the Holy Spirit allows you to live in and experience the grace of God daily.