

ROMANS 7:7-13

LAW OR GRACE

LIVING UNDER THE LAW IS LIKE A BAD MARRIAGE

- Read Romans 7:2-4. What changes when death ends a marriage covenant? How does that picture change our relationship to the Law?
- Under the Law there are only two categories - perfect or failure? Which category are you and why?

THE LAW BREAKS DOWN, NOT BUILDS UP

- Why did Peter call the Law a "yoke" that neither "our fathers nor we have been able to bear?" (Acts 15:10)
- Where does religious performance creep into your life or ministry? How does it exhaust you or others?

THE LAW NAMES OUR SIN

- What specific sin did the commandment expose in Paul (v.7)? What happened when he "heard" the command (vv.8-9)?
- Which analogy helps you most—smoke alarm or MRI—and why?

THE LAW REFLECTS GOD'S CHARACTER

- How do v.12's words—holy, righteous, good—guard us from blaming God's standards?
- Which commands best reveal God's character to you (e.g., faithfulness, honesty, forgiveness)? How does that shape your view of Him?
- Turn one command into worship (e.g., thank Him for His faithfulness and practice it in a relationship).

GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING

- Grace gives you a new nature.
- Grace gives you new desires.
- Grace give you new power.