

The Book of Romans

- I. Paul's **Introduction** to his Letter (1:1-17)
- II. Paul *Declares* Man's **Need** for God's **Salvation** and **Righteousness** (1:18-3:20)
- III. Paul *Delivers* his Gospel Message of **Righteousness** by **Faith in Messiah** (3:21-5:21)

IV. Paul *Describes*, and gives **Instructions** concerning the **Life** and **Walk** of Believers *in Messiah* (6:1-8:39)

What shall we say then?

Are we to **continue** in **sin** so that **grace** may increase?

May it **never be!**

How shall we who **died to sin** still **live** in it? (6:1-2)

- A. He *Instructs* them to **live** as those who have both **Died** and been **Raised** in **Messiah** (6:1-14).

What then? Shall we **sin** because we are **not** under **law** but under **grace**? May it **never be!** (6:15)

- B. He *Implores* them to **live** as **Servants of Righteousness** (6:15-23)

C. He *Informs* them that they have **“Died”** to **the Law** *through* the **Body of Messiah** (7:1-13)

- 1. The **Example** of the **Married Woman** (7:1-3)

⁷ Or do you **not know**, brethren (for I am speaking to **those** who **know the law**), that the **law** has **jurisdiction** over a **person** as long as **he lives**?

² For the **married woman** is **bound** by **law** to her **husband** while **he** is **living**; but if her **husband dies**, she is **released** from the **law** concerning the **husband**.

³ So then, if while her **husband is living** she is **joined** to **another man**,

she shall be called an **adulteress**; but if her **husband dies**, she is **free** from **the law**, so that she is **not** an **adulteress** though she is **joined** to another man.

2. The Believer's "**Death**" and "**Release**" from **the Law** (7:4-6)

⁴ Therefore, my brethren, *you also* were **made to die** to **the Law** *through* the **body of Messiah**, so that you might be **joined to another**, to **Him** who was **raised** from the **dead**, in order that we might **bear fruit** for **God**.

⁵ For while **we** were in the **flesh**, the **sinful passions**, which were **aroused** by the **Law**, were **at work** in the **members** of our body to **bear fruit** for **death**.

⁶ But **now** we have been **released** from **the Law**, having **died** to that by which we were **bound**, so that we **serve** in **newness** of the **Spirit** and **not** in **oldness** of the **letter**.

3. The "**Arousal**" of **Indwelling Sin** *through* the **Law** (7:7-13)

⁷ **What** shall we say then? Is the **Law** **sin**? **May it never be!**
On the contrary, I would not have come to **know sin** except **through the Law**; for I would not have **known** about **coveting** if the **Law** had not said, "**YOU SHALL NOT COVET.**"

⁸ But **sin**, taking **opportunity through** the **commandment**, **producing in me** **coveting** of every kind; for apart from the **Law** **sin is dead**.

⁹ I was **once alive** apart from the **Law**; but when the **commandment** came, **sin became alive** and I **died**;

¹⁰ and this **commandment**, which was to result in **life**, **proved** to result in **death** for me;

¹¹ for **sin**, taking an **opportunity through** the **commandment**, **deceived me** and through it **killed me**.

¹² So then, **the Law is holy**, and the **commandment** is **holy** and **righteous** and **good**.

¹³ Therefore did that which is **good** become a **cause of death** for me? **May it never be!**

Rather it was **sin**, in order that it might be shown to **be sin** by **effecting my death** through that which is **good**, so that **through** the **commandment** **sin** would become **utterly sinful**.

Message Summary (7:1-13)

Key Observations

1. **The Law** has **jurisdiction** over a person as long as **he lives**. A **married woman** is **bound by law** to her **husband** while **he lives**. If **he dies**, she is **free** from the **law** to be **joined to another** (7:1-3).

Previously we learned that **Believers** have “**died to sin**,” having been **baptized into Messiah’s death** and **resurrection** (6:2-5). **Tonight** we learned that **believers** also were made to “**die to the Law**” **through** the **body of Messiah**, so that we might be “**joined to another**,” to **Him (Jesus)** who was “**raised from the dead...that we might bear fruit for God** (7:4).”

2. **Paul** declared that, while they were “**in the flesh** (before **Messiah**) (7:5a)”, **sinful passions**, which were “**aroused**” by the **Law**, were at **work** in the **members** of their **bodies**, “to **bear fruit for death** (7:5).”
3. **Believers**, having “**died**” to that which they were **bound**, have been “**released**” from **the Law**, so that **we might serve** in “**newness of the Spirit**, and **not** in **oldness of the letter** (the **Law**) (7:6).”
4. The **Law**, even though it may cause the “**arousal**” of **sinful passions** in our **flesh**, **is not sin**. We would **not know** what **sin is**, if we did not have **the Law**, and its **commandments** (7:7). For through “the **Law comes** the **knowledge of sin** (3:20).”

Rather, it is **indwelling sin**, “taking **opportunity through** the **commandment** (the **Law**),” to **arouse, produce**, and bring to “**life**” **sinfulness** within our **bodily members**, that results in **death** (7:7-11).

So then, the **Law** is **holy**,
and the **commandment** is **holy** and **righteous** and **good**.

Therefore did that which is **good** (the **Law**) become a **cause of death** for me?
May it **never be!**

Rather it was **sin**, in order that it might be **shown**
to **be sin** by **effecting my death through** that which is **good**,
so that **through** the **commandment sin** would become **utterly sinful**. (7:12-13)

Personal Application

But now **we** have been **released** from the **Law**,
having **died** to that by which we were **bound**,
so that **we serve** in **newness of the Spirit**
and **not** in **oldness of the letter**. (7:6)

What does it mean to *serve* in “Newness of the Spirit?”

Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you,
unless one is **born of water and the Spirit**
he **cannot enter** into the **kingdom of God**. (John 3: 5)

Or do you not know that your **body** is a **temple** of the **Holy Spirit**
who is **in you**, whom you have **from God**,
and that you are **not your own**?

For you have been **bought** with a **price**:
therefore **glorify God** in **your body**.
(I Corinthians 6:19-20)

But I say, **walk by the Spirit**,
and you will **not** carry out the **desire of the flesh**.

For the **flesh** sets its **desire against** the **Spirit**,
and the **Spirit against** the **flesh**;
for these are in **opposition** to one another,
so that you may not **do the things** that **you please**.

But if you are **led** by the **Spirit**, you are **not under the Law**.

But the **fruit** of the **Spirit** is **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,**
goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control;
against such things there is **no law**. (Galatians 5:16-18, 22-23)

Closing Comments