

CALVARY BIBLE CHURCH

“Studies in the Book of Romans - 11

Date: November 29, 2009

Text: Rom. 7:1-25

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THE CONFLICT WITHIN

INTRODUCTION Chapter seven is a very difficult section of Paul's teachings. Although Paul is a masterful communicator, the subject matter is difficult. We shall try to do our best to make it clear and plain. The theme of chapter seven is the human “conflict” that comes when a sinner is saved. He virtually has two opposing and opposite natures struggling to maintain its life within the sinner. Ultimately, the New Nature will be the victor, but while we wait for that permanent reality, we'll struggle through this life. Nonetheless, Paul states we can have victory along the way. Thus we see...

I. The Law and the Spiritual Man – (7:1-6)

- A) An Amplification - “*Marriage Illustrates the Point*”
- B) An Application - “*Two Marvelous Facts*”

II. The Law and the Natural Man – (7:7-13)

- A) The Law Reveals – “*The Hidden Nature of Sin*”
- B) The Law Revives – “*The Hideous Nature of Sin*”

III. The Law and the Carnal Man – (7:14-25)

- A) The Law Defeats – “*Bringing Doom and Defeat*”
- B) The Spirit Delivers – “*Bringing Escape and Victory*”

CONCLUSION: If the spiritual man is delivered from the Law and the natural man is doomed by the law, by the same token the carnal man is defeated by the Law. But thanks be to God, there is escape and victory as the saved sinner constantly yields him or herself to the Spirit's power to control the flesh. Since we are united to Christ and alive in Christ, we therefore can bring forth wholesome fruit unto God. Indeed, it is our union with Christ that enables us to serve God acceptably, apart from the Law which brings death. Are you alive to Christ? Are you surrendered to Him and His will for your life? May the Holy Spirit fully capture our hearts, and take complete possession of all our thoughts, actions, and desires, so that we will be pleasing in God's sight day by day, until glory.

TEXT FOR MESSAGE

The New International Version

Rom 7 (NIV) Do you not know, brothers--for I am speaking to men who know the law--that the law has authority over a man only as long as he lives? 2 For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage. 3 So then, if she marries another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress, even though she marries another man. 4 So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. 5 For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. 6 But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

7 What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "Do not covet." 8 But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of covetous desire. For apart from law, sin is dead. 9 Once I was alive apart from law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died. 10 I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death. 11 For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me, and through the commandment put me to death. 12 So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good. 13 Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means! But in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it produced death in me through what was good, so that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful.

14 We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. 15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. 16 And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. 17 As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. 18 I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. 19 For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do--this I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. 21 So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law; 23 but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. 24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 25 Thanks be to God--through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.