

CHAPTER SEVEN

FREEDOM FROM THE LAW

In this chapter we discover the failures of a justified man to attain holiness by trying to keep the Law after he had been saved by faith. Primarily, Paul is addressing Jewish Christians who had been under the Law of Moses before receiving Christ as Savior. Although Gentile believers were never under the Law, the principle could also apply to them.

Please read Chapter 7. _____ Check.

1. (v. 1) How long does the Law have dominion/authority over a man? Only as long as he lives.
2. (v. 2) How long is a woman bound by Law to her husband? As long as he is alive
3. (v. 3) Is she free to marry again if her husband dies? Yes

In other words, she is FREE FROM THE LAW by the death of her husband. Death ends a relationship, setting one free to enter into a new relationship. Therefore, Paul concludes in verse 4 that we died to the Law through the body of Christ so that we belong to Him in a new relationship, He who was raised from the dead, rather than belonging to the Law.

3. (v. 4) Believers have died to the Law through Christ on the cross and are to be married (joined) to
4. another. Who? Jesus Christ

Note: Union with Christ brings forth fruitfulness in our lives.

Please read Galatians 5:22-23. _____ Check.

5. Name five of the fruits of the Spirit as shown in the life of the believer.

1. Love
2. Joy
3. Patience
4. Peace
5. Kindness

Please read Galatians 5:19-21. _____ Check.

6. Name five works of the flesh.

1. Sexual immorality
2. Impurity and debauchery
3. Idolatry and witchcraft
4. Hatred
5. Jealousy

Note: The contrast of what sin in the flesh produces in the unsaved, and what the Holy Spirit produces in the believer.

7. (v. 6) Being now delivered from the Law, the Jewish believer was free to serve God in the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code, that is, in observing all the minute details of the Mosaic Law. Freedom in Christ will render greater service than being in bondage under the Law.

Holiness not by the Law. Read Romans 7:7-14. _____ Check. In this section Paul describes his earlier struggle

as a converted Jew and his attempt to be holy by trying to keep the Law after he was saved by faith. Paul was not troubled about pardon from sin. He had shown in the preceding chapters that faith in Christ secured pardon.

6. (v. 7) In Romans 3:20 we learned that "...by the Law is the knowledge of sin"(KJV). By which commandment of the Law was Paul convicted? **Thou shalt not covet.**

9. (v. 9) Paul thought himself "alive" (not condemned) until he became aware of the Law. The Law revealed his sin, and he came under the penalty of death. So, in (v. 10), he found that the commandment, instead of giving life, actually did what? **It brought death**

10. (v. 12) What is said about the Law in this verse? **The Law is holy and the commandment is holy, righteous and good.**

11. (v. 13) The last part of this verse gives an important purpose of the Law. What is the purpose? **Through the Law sin is recognized as sin, so that man may become aware of his sinful nature and recognize his need for salvation.**

The Law made sin more prominent by condemning it. Please Read Galatians 3:24-25. _____ Check.

12. (Gal 3:23-24) We are told here what the purpose of the Law was. Explain, in your own words, what the Law was to do. **The Law was given to lead us to Christ.**

This is most important to see, for Paul did not understand this in his early Christian life, as he continues to relate in Romans 7. Paul tried to put himself back under the Law to attain holiness and failed. Note how Paul reacts when he becomes more aware of the demands of the Law.

THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE TWO NATURES OF THE BELIEVER.

Every true believer has two conflicting natures. The one is received by natural birth and is called the *flesh*. The other nature that we receive when we are born again is called the *spirit*.

Galatians 5:17 tells us "...the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other so that you do not do what you want" (NIV). That is, you cannot sin without being convicted from within.

Please read Romans 7:15-25. _____ Check.

13. (vv. 15-17) Paul shows that the believer has conflict between the old nature and the new nature.

(v. 17) What causes Paul to do wrong (sin)? **Sin living in him**

14. (v. 18) Does Paul want to do good? **He has the desire to do good.**

15. (v. 19) Can he find the strength to do it? **No, the evil he does not want to do he keeps on doing.**

16. (v. 21) What "Law" is true about Paul? **When he wants to do good, evil is right there in him.**

17. (v. 22) What does the *inner man* delight in? **In God's law.**

18. (v. 24) How does Paul describe himself? **A wretched man.**
19. (v. 25) How was he delivered from this struggle? **Through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord.**
- Note the words of praise “I thank God” when he discovers there is deliverance.

CHAPTER EIGHT

LIFE THROUGH THE SPIRIT

The eighth chapter is one of the most beloved chapters in the Bible. Here we find much of the teaching concerning the work of the Holy Spirit in the believer and for the believer. The latter part of the chapter, verses 29-39, teaches us the calling, position, and security we have in Christ.

The Holy Spirit in the Believer. Read Romans verse 8:1-18. _____ Check.

1. (v. 1) Who are they that have no condemnation? **Those who are in Christ Jesus.**

As far as the believer is concerned, judgment is past. At Calvary, Christ bore the penalty of our sins. The believer's standing is secure because it rests entirely on Jesus Christ and His finished work.

2. (v. 2) From what law does the law of the Spirit free the believer? **The law of sin.**

Sin and death were brought into the world through Adam's trespass. Read again Romans 5:12-15.

3. (v. 3) This *Law* refers to the Law of Moses, or the Ten Commandments. Note that according to this verse the Law could not produce the obedience it demanded. Is it possible for sinful flesh to obey a Holy Law? _

No

What the Law could not do, God did by **sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering.**

The word "flesh" used in verses 3 through 13 means our sinful nature. In verse 3 the Law could not make us righteous because the flesh was unable to obey it.

4. (v. 4a) Why did God condemn sin in the flesh? Please use your own words. _____

So that we would become fully aware of what was required to live a righteous life.

Note: That the righteousness of the Law is fulfilled *in* the believer, not *by* the believer. It is the Holy Spirit in the believer that fulfills the righteousness of the Law.

5. (v. 4b) The believer is one who does not **live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit**

Walking according to the flesh is to reject the gift of salvation through Christ and to seek to establish righteousness by works.

Read Romans 8:5-8. _____ Check. In these verses we see a contrast between two ways of life: the fleshly (carnal or sinful nature) and the spiritual. To be “in the flesh” is to be governed, or controlled, by the desires of the flesh.

6. Verses 5 and 6 show a great contrast between those who set their minds on the flesh and those who set their minds on the Spirit. What are these contrasting results? Use your own words. **The mind controlled by the flesh in sinful man is dead to grace while the mind controlled by the Spirit finds eternal life and peace.**

7. (vv. 7-8) Using your own words note three things said about the carnal mind. 1. **It is hostile to God** _____
2. **It does not submit to God’s Law, nor can it do so** 3. **It cannot please God.** _____

8. (v. 9) The born-again believer is not controlled by the sinful nature, but **by the Spirit** _____
If a person does not have the Spirit, does he belong to God? **No.** _____

Read Romans 8:10-13. _____ Check.

9. (v. 10) If Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet **your spirit is alive because of righteousness.** _____

10. (v. 11) Who brings life? **He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to our mortal bodies through His Spirit.** _____

The Holy Spirit quickens us (or makes us alive unto God) and gives us the power to overcome the flesh (sin). The Holy Spirit comes into our lives when we by faith receive Jesus Christ as our Savior. Read Ephesians 1:13-14. He himself seals us and becomes a guarantee of our REDEMPTION (that is, our being bought by God with the precious blood of Christ.) See 1 Peter 1.18-19. Our position in Christ is secure.

11. (vv. 12-14) What will happen if you live by the flesh? **You will die spiritually and physically.** _____
What will happen if you live by the Spirit? Why? **You will live because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.** _____

Read Romans 8:15-17. _____ Check. **A New Position**

12. (v. 15) Who gives us assurance that we are children of God? **The Holy Spirit.** _____

Note: “Abba” is a word like “daddy,” used by a child to show complete trust.

13. (v. 16) What does the Holy Spirit do with our spirit? **He testifies to our spirits that we are Gods’ children.** _____

14. (v. 17) We are heirs of God and co-heirs of Christ, and share His inheritance if we share His _____
suffering in order that we may also share in His glory. _____

Read Romans 8:18-25. _____ Check. **The Suffering Creation**

15. (v. 18) What are the sufferings of this present time not worthy to be compared to? _____
To the glory that will be revealed in us. _____

16. (vv. 19-23) These verses refer to the suffering of all creation (sometimes translated “creature”) because of _____

sin and death. What does v. 21 say about the future of creation? **The creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.**

16. (v. 23) We suffer (groan) also, as we wait for what? **We wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.**

18. (vv. 24-25) What does the word *hope* mean as it is used here? **Our hope is the redemption of our bodies. We wait patiently for the fulfillment of God's promises.**

The redemption of the body is the hope of the Christian. Hope anticipates and expects. Are you patiently waiting for this hope?

Read Romans 8:26-28. _____ Check. Answer the following statements True or False.

19. The Holy Spirit will help us in our weaknesses. True
20. We know what we should pray for. False
21. The Spirit prays or intercedes for us. True
22. The Spirit prays for us according to the will of God. True
23. God makes all things work together for good to those who love Him. True
24. God had no purpose in calling (saving) us. False

Read Romans 8:29-31. _____ Check.

25. (v. 29) Did God know us before we were born? Yes

26. (v. 29) What is God's purpose for our lives? **He predestined us to be conformed to the likeness of His Son.**

27. (v. 30) Since believers are foreknown and predestined by God, they are also

1. Called
2. Justified
3. Glorified

28. (v. 31) No wonder Paul says, "What shall we then say to these things?"

"If God is for us, who can be against us?"

29. (v. 32) He spared not His own Son, but gave Him up for us all.

30. (v. 32) He gives us graciously all things.

31. (v. 34) It is Christ that is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

32. (v. 37) We are more than conquerors through Him who loved us

33. (vv. 38-39) Name five things that cannot separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus.

1. Death
2. Life
3. Angels
4. Demons
5. Present or future or Powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation.

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ROMANS LESSON THREE

Answer Key

CHAPTER NINE GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS REJECTED BY ISRAEL

In this section of Romans, chapters 9-11, God is dealing directly with His chosen nation Israel, not with individual Jews or Gentiles. You may recall that in chapters two and three we learned that God had blessed the Jews in a special way by giving them the written Law of God (the Commandments), the oracles of God (the Old Testament) and direct revelation through the prophets. Yet God chose to set Israel aside as a nation because of her rejection of Christ as the promised Messiah.

During this present age, or dispensation of grace, God is saving Jews and Gentiles individually, apart from any covenant or promise. Chapter 9 demonstrates God's sovereignty, that is, His absolute freedom to do as He pleases. Read Romans 9:1-5. _____ Check.

1. (v. 2) How do we know that Paul was deeply burdened? _____

He says that he has great sorrow and unceasing anguish in his heart.

2. (v. 3-4a) For whom was he especially concerned? His brothers, those of his own race, the people of Israel.

3. List eight privileges God gave the Jews.

(v. 4) 1. Adoption as sons

2. The divine glory of the presense of God among them

3. The covenants

4. The receiving of the Law

5. The temple worship

6. The promises of God

(v. 5) 7. The patriarches

8. From the patriarchs is traced the human ancestry of Christ.

4 Israel's greatest privilege was that through them the Messiah would come.

5. (v. 6) Is everyone who is born a Jew a true Israelite? No

6. (v. 7) Is everyone a child of the promise who is a descendant of Abraham? No

Note: Paul is comparing natural birth with spiritual birth.

(v. 8) Who are the children of God? **The children of the promise are regarded as Abraham's offspring**

7. (v. 9) What promise did God make to Abraham and Sarah? **"At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a child."**

Read Genesis 17:15-21; 18:10-18; 25:21-26. _____ Check.

9. Who were the sons of Abraham?

From Gen. 16:1-16 **Ishmael**

From Gen. 21:1-3 **Isaac**

From Gen. 21: 9-12 Through which son did God choose to fulfill His promise of blessing? **Isaac**

From Gen. 25: 21-26 Who were the sons of Isaac? **Esau and Jacob**

Read Romans 9:10-18. _____ Check.

10. Does God have the right to choose those through whom He will fulfill his purposes? **Yes**

Which son of Isaac did God choose? **Jacob**

(This choosing at will is sometimes referred to as the DOCTRINE OF ELECTION.)

11. (v. 14) Is God unfair in his dealings with man? **No**

(v. 15) Does God choose those on whom He will have mercy? **Yes**

12. (v. 17) For what purpose did God raise up Pharaoh at the time of Moses? **So that God's power might be displayed through him and God's name might be proclaimed in all the earth.**

Read Exodus 14:1-18. _____ Check.

13. (Exodus 14:4) Did God harden Pharaoh's heart? **Yes** (This is God's method of dealing with those who resist his will).

14. (Exodus 14:4) For what reason did He do this? **For His glory and so that the Egyptians would know He is Lord.** God can use evil to accomplish good, as evidenced in His dealings with Pharaoh.

Read Romans 9:19-24. _____ Check.

15. (v. 20) What question should we never ask God? **"Why did you make me like this?"**

16. (v. 21) Since God is the Creator, does He have the authority to do with us as He pleases? **Yes**

17. (vv. 22-23) Why does God endure with longsuffering (patience) the vessels of wrath (the objects of his anger)? **God is patient with his children so that He may make the riches of his glory known to those He prepared in advance for glory, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles.**

18. (v. 23) Who are the vessels of mercy (the objects of His anger)? **His people**

Read Romans 9:25-29. _____ Check. **What the Prophets Foretold.**

In these four verses, Paul quotes from the prophets Hosea and Isaiah to show that the true children of God were those He called out of the nation of Israel.

19. (v. 27) How many of the nation of Israel will be saved? Only the remnant

Read and compare the following scriptures:

Romans 9:25 and Hosea 2:23

Romans 9:26 and Hosea 1:10

Romans 9:27-29 and Isaiah 10:22-23

These verses show how God fulfills His word, though it was prophesied hundreds of years in advance.

Read Romans 9:30-33. _____ Check.

20. (v. 30) Did the Gentiles pursue righteousness? No

21. (v. 30) Did they attain it? Yes

22. (v. 31) Did Israel pursue righteousness? Yes

23. (v. 31) Did they attain it? No

24. (v. 32a) Why not? Because they did not pursue it by faith

25. (v. 32b) How did Israel seek righteousness? By their works

26. (v. 32b) What caused them to stumble? “The stumbling stone.”

27. (1 Corinthians 1:23; and also 1 Peter 2:4-8) Who was this stumbling stone? Jesus the Messiah

SUMMARY

The Gentiles, while not seeking righteousness, recognized their lost condition, and turned to Christ for salvation. The Jews, as a nation, pursued righteousness on their own merit and rejected the Savior.

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