

ROMANS 7: 7-14

V 7-8: “What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, ‘You shall not covet.’ But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law sin was dead.”

- How do we know that sin is really sin?
- How is sin dead without the law?
- Are there people who have no guilt over their sin? Why?
- Why would “antinomianism” (against law) be so wrong and dangerous?

V 9-10 – “I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death.”

- When was the law first given? When was the “second giving of the law”?
- What was the law intended to bring? What did it actually bring?
- Is there any way we can be saved through the law? Other passages?
- Does the law in any way prepare our hearts for the Gospel? (Law/Diagnostic and Gospel/Healing)

V 11-12 – “For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me and by it killed me. Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, just and good.”

- Is the law responsible for my sin and therefore wrong? Who is?
- How does sin deceive me? Cf James 1:13-16 – “Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am tempted by God’, for God cannot be tempted by evil nor does He tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my brethren.” (Note the progression of sin and its ultimate goal.)
- With what words does Paul here describe God’s law?
- How does that divine standard apply to us?

V 13-14 – “Has then what is good become death to me? Certainly not! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what was good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful. For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.”

- How does the law stimulate sin and help reveal its true colors?
- How does sin become “exceedingly sinful”?
- What are the three uses of the law?
- Having identified the problem for the Apostle and all of us, is there a solution?

Romans 7:24-25 – “O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God – through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.”