

Christians - Sin, Law & Holiness - Romans 7

In 57AD at Corinth, Paul wrote to thoroughly answer the question of how to be right with God (1-8#) and its implications (9-16#). In chapter 6-7, he uses 3 images to encourage Christians to live godly lives - slavery, baptism and marriage.

1. The Christian's Life Beyond Law-keeping 7:1-13

What's the purpose of OT law?

The marriage illustration - both marriage & the law are temporary
See 7:2 and Mark 12:25,

Law exposes, provokes, and condemns sin 7:7-10, 3:19-20

Live as if we are "married" to Christ 7:4

2. The Christian's Cry 7:14-25

But who is Paul's "I" in 7:14-25?

He admits sin v14,18 Loves & desires god's law v12,14,19,22,25, 8:7

He loves to please God and do good 7:21

He longs for release from sins tug 7:24-25, 8:23

3. So what about the fight with sin now?

- Hate sin and fight it - recognise that the fight against sin is a life long battle that Christ has saved us for, not just to forgive us, and so that we might live to bear fruit of holiness for God 7:4, Galatians 5:16
- Identify what sins you are most prone to and when. Have a holiness plan.
- Look forward to the time when Jesus will release us from our sinful nature - at death or His return 7:25.
- Fight hard against sin by God's strength ie. Knowing we are indwelt by God's powerful Spirit who is committed to making us holy.
- Rely upon and use the help God has offered us ie. Ephesian 6