

Justification Found Through The Gospel, Not The Law of Moses – 3:21-8:39

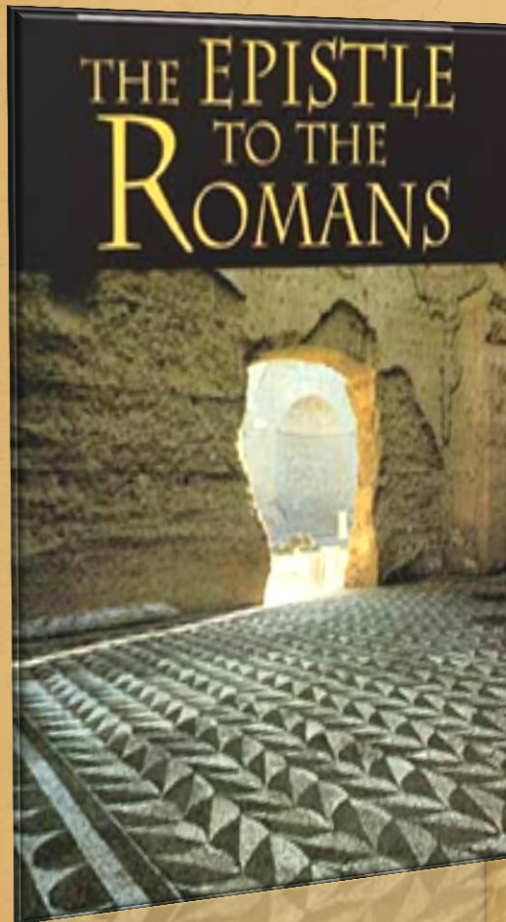
ROMANS

Romans 7:1-25

Lesson 7

The Righteousness of God –
Delivers From The Curse of The Law ₁

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man



- ✦ **The sinful condition of the whole world and its need for salvation – (1:18-3:20)**
- ✦ **Men are justified by pardon, (grace), not merit, (works) – (3:21 - 4:25)**
- ✦ **The benefits of justification based on Christ's death – Death through Adam, life Through Christ – (5:1-25)**
- ✦ **The gospel of grace requires holiness – Not to continue in sin – (6:1-23)**
- ✦ **The hopeless condition of one under the Law outside of Christ – (7:1-25)**

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

Making Excuses For Sin



I Can't
Help it

- ♦ "I'm only human."
- ♦ "I was born this way."
- ♦ "We are still in the flesh."
- ♦ "We live in a wicked world."
- ♦ "Only Jesus was perfect."
- ♦ "Everybody sins daily."
- ♦ "We can't keep God's commandments; they were given to show that we can't keep them."

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man



The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

The Gospel Delivers From The Bondage & Condemnation of Sin - Rom 6 & 8

- ✦ **The Christian Is NOT To Continue In Sin! – 6:1,2**
- ✦ **The Christian Has Died To Sin! – 6:3-8**
- ✦ **Sin No Longer Has Dominion! – 6:9-14**
- ✦ **He Is To Be A Servant of Righteousness! – 6:15-23**

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- ✦ **Walk according to the law of the Spirit – 8:1,2-8**
- ✦ **Puts to death the deeds of the body! – 8:9-13**
- ✦ **Are led by the Spirit! – 8:14-17**
- ✦ **Those conformed to the image of Jesus! – 8:29,30**

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

To Whom Are You Married? 7:1-6



- ✦ **The law has dominion over a man as long as he lives – 7:1**
- ✦ **The illustration of a husband and wife being bound to one another for life – 7:2,3; Mat. 19:1-9; 1 Cor. 7:4,27,39**
- ✦ **Christians are dead to the Law through Christ that they may be married to God – 7:4**
- ✦ **The fruit of being under the Law is death – 7:5**
- ✦ **Having been delivered from the Law, we can now serve God in newness of the Spirit – 7:6; 2 Cor. 3:6-9**

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

Sins Advantage In The Law - 7:7-12



- ✦ **The Law is not sin – but it identifies sin and makes it known – 7:7; 3:19,20**
- ✦ **Sin uses the Law to destroy those under it – 7:8-11**
- ✦ **The Law is holy, just and good – it is sin that is bad – and the one under the Law who sins is unholy & unjust – 7:12; Gal. 3:10**

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

Hopelessness Under Law - 7:13-24



Essentially, there are two points of view among commentators: one says this passage describes Paul's experience as a mature Christian, and therefore the best experience that the Christian can hope for in this life.

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

Hopelessness Under Law - 7:13-24



"In himself, that is, in his fleshly being, a Christian is no more holy or sinless than he was before salvation"

(The MacArthur New Testament Commentary Romans 1-8, Moody Press, Chicago, 1991, p. 383).

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

Hopelessness Under Law - 7:13-24



The opposing position is that these verses do not characterize the Christian experience at all, but Paul is referring to any person under the Law and not in Christ who recognizes his wretched position - condemned by the Law and without hope.

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Hopelessness Under Law - 7:13-24



- ✦ Paul is using a figure of speech in which a writer will change tense for dramatic effect. (cf. 1 Tim. 1:15)
- ✦ Hyperbole in order to impress on the reader the hopelessness of a man under the Law outside of Christ.

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Hopelessness Under Law - 7:13-24



- ✦ **The Law is good – sin is bad and is magnified by the Law as being exceedingly sinful – 7:13**
- ✦ **The Law is spiritual – It is from God, and is addressed to the spirit of man – 7:14a;**
- ✦ **The man under the Law, after violating it, finds himself in the grasp of sin and no way out – 7:14b; Gal. 3:10-12; Heb. 10:1-4**

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

Hopelessness Under Law - 7:13-24



- ✦ **The Law impresses guilt upon the conscience – when one is so hopelessly entangled by sin – where is the strength and motivation to serve God? - 7:15**
- ✦ **This man knows that the Law is good because he recognizes his actions are sinful – 7:16**
- ✦ **His relationship with sin is unbreakable – 7:17-24**

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

Hopelessness Under Law - 7:13-24

Man CANNOT save
Himself from sin
outside of Christ

God provides
deliverance through
Christ.

Summarizing the
conflict that exist in
the man under the
Law after finding
himself guilty of
violating it.

Romans 7:24-25 (NKJV)

²⁴ O wretched man that I am!
Who will deliver me from this
body of death? ²⁵ 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.

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

Hopelessness Under Law - 7:13-24

- ◆ Those under the Law **CANNOT** make their wrongs right –
- ◆ The Law demanded justice with no provision for pardon! 7:23-25

Romans 7:24-25 (NKJV)

²⁴ O wretched man that I am!
Who will deliver me from
this body of death?

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

Hopelessness Under Law - 7:13-24

- ✦ Not two masters at the same time – Mat. 6:24
- ✦ Not the body sinning and the mind, (spirit), not sinning – 6:13,19; 8:1-8; 12:1,2

Romans 7:24-25 (NKJV)

²⁴ O wretched man that I am!
Who will deliver me from
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²⁵ ... So then, with the mind
I myself serve the law of
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The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

Hopelessness Under Law - 7:13-24



O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

The Person Outside of Christ:

- ◆ He is dead! – 7:8-11
- ◆ Carnal, sold under sin! – 7:14
- ◆ Sense of guilt - for he knows that he is NOT doing what the Law teaches & requires! - 7:15-22
- ◆ The indwelling of sin! - 7:17,20
- ◆ Cannot find how to do what is good – cannot undo or overcome sin! - 7:18
- ◆ Bondage, captivity! - 7:14,24
- ◆ Wretched & Miserable! - 7:23-25

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man

Hopelessness Under Law - 7:13-24

Not the Faithful Christian of:

- ◆ 6:1,2 - NOT to Continue In Sin! –
- ◆ 6:2-10 - Has Died To Sin & alive to God!
- ◆ 6:9-14 - Sin No Longer Has Dominion!
- ◆ 6:15-23 – No longer to be a servant of sin!
- ◆ 8:1,2 - Free from the law of sin & death –
- ◆ 8:1,2-8 - Walks according to the law of the Spirit! – (8:14-17)
- ◆ 8:9-13 - Has put to death the deeds of the body & will live – (6:13; 1 Cor. 6:13)
- ◆ 8:29,30 - Conformed to image of Jesus!



O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man From Bondage & Condemnation



- ✦ **Romans 7:14-25 is an inspired depiction of a man who is confused, frustrated and helpless to justify himself, once having sinned against God's law, and not having accepted the grace of God that is in Jesus Christ!**
- ✦ **Is this you?? – You can be delivered!!! – Rom 6:1-3; 8:1,2**

The Gospel – God's Power To Save Man From Bondage & Condemnation



- ✦ **The grace of God is wonderful - it has provided the means of forgiveness for sin in the person and sacrifice of Jesus Christ! – Eph. 2:1-10**
- ✦ **The Grace of God is powerful, in delivering the child of God from the bondage of sin and it has abiding results - Titus 2:11-14; Romans 6;8;12:1,2**

God's Means of Making Men Righteous Is Not By The Law – But Through The Gospel

Romans 1:16,17

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

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