

SCRIPTURE VERSES – ROMANS SEVEN	COMMENTARY
<p>Vs 1-3 “Know ye not brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law), how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? For the woman which hath a husband is bound by the law to <i>her</i> husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of <i>her</i> husband. So then if, while <i>her</i> husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.”</p>	<p>Paul returns to the question referred to in 6:15: “What then, Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? God forbid!” And now he illustrates his answer by a comparison with marriage. Marriage is lifelong; but if one partner dies, the other is no longer bound by the law and is free to marry someone else. Therefore, since Paul already stated in 6:14, “For sin shall have no more dominion (power, authority) over you, for you are not under the law but under grace.”, we realize we are fully free from our marriage with the law; Paul infers that all Christians have died to the law, and are now married to our Savior, and bear fruit for Him (6:22).</p>
<p>Vs 4 “Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another – to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.”</p>	<p>An exact application of the illustration would be that the law died, and now the believer is free to “marry” grace. Paul’s words are that believers died to the law. Having died to the law, the believer is now free to marry our Savior and bear fruit for Him. Out of the marriage relationship is birthed children; as intimacy with Christ brings the fruit of righteousness (souls).</p>
<p>Vs 5 “<i>For when we were in the flesh</i>, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death.”</p>	<p>In the flesh refers to the period prior to the believer’s conversion. In this context, those in the flesh are not saved, and those in the Spirit are saved. On the other hand, both believers and unbelievers may walk in the flesh, but only believers can/should always walk in the Spirit. The law aroused sinful desires expressed through members of the body, resulting in death (“<i>Hath God Said....?</i>”)</p>
<p>Vs 6 <i>But Now*</i>, we have been delivered from the law, having <i>died</i> to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit of life and <i>not in the oldness of the letter of the law.</i>”</p> <p>*References: Jn. 1:17; Rom. 3:2; 6:22; 7:6; 8:1; 15:23; 16:26; 1 Cor. 2:12; 12:18; 13:12; Gal. 1:23; 2:20; 3:14; 4:9; Eph. 5:8; Phil. 1:20; 2:12; 14:10.</p> <p>This is a very important confirmation that Paul, in his penning the scriptures, was a believer writing about his own past, prior to his conversion to Christ, <i>but now</i>, walks in the Spirit!</p>	<p>Indicates a <i>brand new life</i> in the <i>Holy Spirit</i>; not in the letter of the law!</p> <p>*“<i>But God. . . .But Now. .</i>” In This portion of the Word of God, the expression <i>But now</i> points back to the foregoing argument concerning condemnation of the entire world, contrast with the present newness. Prior to this expression the Jew, Gentile...all were under sin. Every mouth is stopped and the world stands guilty before God. There is nothing man can say. God almighty, Creator of man and the universe, declares that all are under His Judgment, because of mankind’s sin. <i>But God...But now</i> shows the fulfillment of Grace and life” (See partial list of references, Left column, V 6).</p>
<p>Vs 7 “What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid! 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, <i>You shall not covet.</i>”</p>	<p>The next logical question (6:1, 15) is: Is the law sin? God Forbid! (6:2,15). Paul emphatically denies the law is sinful. From this point through Chapter 7: Paul uses his personal pre-salvation experiences as an illustration: The law reveals sin.</p>
<p>Vs 8 “But sin, taking opportunity by <i>commandment</i>, produced in me all <i>manner of evil</i> desire. For apart from the law, sin <i>was</i> dead.</p> <p>Commandment: when this word was used by Paul concerning sin or flesh, the subject would always deal with being <i>under</i> the law.</p>	<p>Sin was always rampant; out of control of man. Sin was not imputed before the law (5:13). Confirm: Abraham was considered righteous prior to the law. Though he had many good works (building altars before God), and was obedient, these had nothing to do with God considering him righteous. Only those who followed after God in faith were righteous.</p>

<p>Vs 9 “I was alive once without the law once: but when the <i>commandment</i> came, sin revived, and I died.”</p> <p>Commandment: when this word was used by Paul concerning sin or flesh, the subject would always deal with being <i>under</i> the law.</p>	<p>Paul believed himself to be ok. He was a Pharisee, and it was very common that the Pharisees and Sadducees were very satisfied. Paul was the same, for he felt he was <i>without the law</i>. Brought up at the feet of Gamaliel, a doctor of the law; a great student of the law, a strict observer of it, and zealous for it, <i>yet without the law</i>. Many are <i>spiritually dead in sin</i>, yet alive in their self-opinions. The law revealed to Paul by this commandment, he was in the path of destruction because of his sin.</p>
<p>Vs 10 “And the <i>commandment</i>, which was <i>ordained to life</i>, I found to be unto death.”</p>	<p>Since the law points out the path of righteousness by revealing sin, it points to life; but since Paul was under the law, in the flesh prior to salvation, it meant death.</p>
<p>Vs 11 “...sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it, killed me.”</p>	<p>Since the law reveals naked sin to us, it points to life. Yet, because sin reigns in or bodies, it becomes death to us when we walk in the flesh, we become deceived into sinning, which can ruin us spiritually. Resource: Study Acts 7-9: Saul does all in his power to destroy the young Church just before Christ calls him.</p>
<p>Vs 12 “Therefore the law is holy, and the <i>commandment</i> holy and just and good.”</p>	<p>Here, Paul speaks of the law/commandments as holy. The problems with sin is not the fault of God’s law, as God’s plan in giving the law was to see the coming of His Son, Jesus Christ, who would solidly defeat the enemy of mankind – so man might walk daily in His Spirit.</p>
<p>Vs 13 “Has then what is good become death to me? God forbid! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful. (See Rom 6:1,5)</p>	<p>Paul answered again, <i>God Forbid!</i> Vs 13. The law is <i>what is Good</i>. An emphatic denial. Again, the problem is not the law, but sin. Sin used the law to produce sin in the lives of both the unsaved and the baby/carnal Christian. Sin is seen as evil, with awful consequences.</p>
<p>Vs 14 “For we know the law is spiritual. But I am carnal, sold under sin.”</p>	<p>The law is from God. But Paul stated his problem was the sin of carnality; like a slave sold into sin. Unfortunately, most Christians today believe Paul walked as a Christian, but the scriptures plainly show that this Paul was penning the life of an unregenerate Saul, a man of Paul’s past.</p>
<p>Vs 15-17 “For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not <i>practice</i>; but what I hate, that I do. 16) If then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law, that it is good. 17) But now, <i>it is</i> no longer I who do it, but it is sin that dwells in me.</p>	<p>Paul is saying he is fully confused because it appears to be impossible for him to do what is right. In fact, he says he does not practice doing good. He hates the things he does do, and says he does what he <i>does not</i> want to do; the law is good; he does not know how to do good because sin dwells in him. Christians <i>must</i> walk in the Holy Spirit!</p>
<p>Vs 18 “For I know that in me, (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but <i>how</i> to perform what is good I do not find.”</p>	<p>Paul may as well confess that he is unclean in every way because of his flesh which brings forth sin without his ability to resist it. “<i>Resist the devil and he will flee from you.</i>” (James 4:7) Paul must have been an unbeliever!</p>
<p>Vs 19 “For the good that I will <i>to do</i>, I do not do; but the evil I will to do, that I <i>practice</i>.”</p>	<p>To practice doing evil on a regular basis is <i>gross</i> sin. Whether or not Paul repented after each occasion, there would be a place where God would judge him for his sins because he was given, as a Christian, every tool, and weapon of Spiritual warfare to overcome habitual sins. This Paul is not a Christian. <i>Christians</i> walk in the Spirit.</p>
<p>Vs 20 “Now if I do what I will not <i>to do</i>, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.”</p>	<p>Paul makes continual excuses for his sin. He is not using the authority and power given the church to overcome the enemy. This is about Saul as a persecutor!</p>

<p>Vs 21 “I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.”</p>	<p>Paul explains a corrupt nature, the flesh. There can be no good results, any more than a stalk of corn growing on a rock; or on the sand. Saul did not understand the means by which Jesus’ Spirit guides those who will walk in the Spirit. Therefore, Saul was the persecutor of the Church.</p>
<p>Vs 22 “For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man.”</p>	<p>Saul did nothing in half measure. His persecution of the early Church was carried on with such zeal that he wrought havoc among the Christians! By his own testimony we know he enthusiastically and in all good conscience arrested and imprisoned all professing Christ-followers he could locate. He stood by and consented to the death of Stephen. Paul was a religious, but was of the Pharisees that believed they were doing God’s will. Paul sat under the Old Covenant teaching of Gamaliel, and understood well, the law.</p>
<p>Vs 23 “I see another law in my members, warring against the war of my mind, and bringing me into <i>captivity</i> to the law of sin which is my members.”</p>	<p>The law warring against Paul’s mind brought him into captivity to the law of sin in his members. The important point here is to realize that Jesus delivered His own born again children from all the wiles of the devil. He told us by Peter to “Resist the devil and he will flee from you.” (James 4:7; see also 1 Peter 5:8; Gal 5:16-18; Rom. 1:1,4)</p>
<p>Vs 24 “O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?”</p>	<p>Paul defeated? From the day he was saved, filled with the Holy Spirit, healed, led to the desert for 3 years, by the Spirit, and preached the powerful word of God for 40 years or more. He did a major part in the completion of the Word of God in his epistles...supernaturally...by the Spirit. Since Jesus’ resurrection, no man has ever accomplished as much; suffered as much; gained as much!</p>
<p>Vs 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.”</p>	<p>Paul is gloriously saved on his way to Damascus to get permission to continue in the destruction, where Christ intervened in his life. Paul became a powerful, Holy Spirit filled, on fire preacher for the Kingdom of God! NOTE: By the time Paul wrote Romans, he was a well seasoned minister of the gospel with thousands of converts, all taught according to the doctrines Jesus supernaturally placed in his heart and mind. Paul was no more a spiritual weakling, or wimp at this point as when first saved!</p>

It’s grievous to realize most of the church world today consider Paul that wretched, corrupt, captive by satan, unable to follow after the Spirit of God...minister to the Gentiles. This is the biggest lie the devil manufactured in the entire Word of God. He wants you and I to believe that the greatest leaders of the Christian Church is not only weak, but filled with sins that came from hell, and unable to change. He wants us to believe, “No matter, because everybody sins; it’s impossible to avoid sin because we are in the flesh.” If you are a godly Christian, are you going to continue to believe the evil placed in the hearts and minds of the majority of today’s Church by the enemy of our souls?

Please Church, wake up! Time is running out, and Christ is coming back soon for a cleansed and powerful Church!

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.”