

Paul's Letter to the
Romans



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ROMANS 7:14-25

The Christian Soul in Turmoil

Paul's Letter to the
Romans



2 WALKAWAYS



1. You are NOT alone or as singular as you might think in struggling in the Christian walk. The Apostle Paul battled too. Your in good company.
2. There is hope in the midst of our struggles. Future hope, but even encouragement for the daily battle.

OUTLINE

- | | |
|-----------------|----------|
| 1. Confusion | v. 15 |
| 2. Confirmation | v. 16 |
| 3. Separation | v. 17-18 |
| 4. Intrusion | v. 21-22 |
| 5. Exasperation | v. 24 |
| 6. Jubilation | v. 25 |



ROMANS 7:14-25

14 For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin.

15 For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate.

16 But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good.

17 So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.

18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not.

19 For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.

20 But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.

21 I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good.

22 For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man,

23 but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.

24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?

25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.



THE BIG QUESTION



- ❖ Is Paul describing himself BEFORE he was saved or AFTER he's saved?
- ❖ Is Paul describing the Christian walk or the Pre-Christian life?

DESCRIBING THE BELIEVER, CHAPTER 6 TELLS US



Romans 6:2 “How shall we who died to sin still live in it?”

Romans 6:6 “Knowing this, that your old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin”

Romans 6:7 “Freed from sin”

Romans 6:11 “Consider yourselves dead to sin”

Our text seems to imply “unsaved”

Romans 7:14 “I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin”

Romans 7:17 “So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.”

Romans 7:23 Talks about us as being “A prisoner of the law of sin.”

BUT

Even in Chapter 6, Paul suggests that there will STILL be a battle with sin.



- ✓ Romans 6:12 “do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts.”
- ✓ Romans 6:13 “and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead.

4 REASONS

THIS IS A BELIEVER



- 1) There is a change in tense of the verbs.
 - a) Romans 7:7-13—Past Tense.
 - b) Romans 7:14-25—Present Tense.

- 2) There are statements that could never apply to an unbeliever.
 - a) vv. 19, 21 Paul wants to do good and hates sin
 - b) v. 22 Paul says he loves the Word of God
 - c) v. 25b Gives thanks to Jesus?

- 3) It doesn't describe how Paul saw himself before Christ
 - a) Phil. 1:3-6
 - b) Gal 1:14

- 4) It is only AFTER Christ that Paul saw himself as a sinner.
 - a) 1 Tim. 1:15 "Jesus Christ came to save sinners...I am foremost of all"
 - b) 1 Cor 15:9 "I am the least of the Apostles and not worthy to be called..."
 - c) Eph 3:8 "The very least of ALL the saints"

ROMANS 7:14



14 For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin.

1 Corinthians 15:35-44

“But someone will say, “How are the dead raised? And with what kind of body do they come?” You fool! That which you sow does not come to life unless it dies; and that which you sow, you do not sow the body which is to be, but a bare grain, perhaps of wheat or of something else. But God gives it a body just as He wished, and to each of the seeds a body of its own.

All flesh [physical] is not the same flesh, but there is one flesh of men, and another flesh of beasts, and another flesh of birds, and another of fish. There are also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one, and the glory of the earthly is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.”





2 Corinthians 4:16

“Though the outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day

ROMANS 7:15-25

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FIGHT!



“Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box [Fight with the fists] in such a way, as not beating the air; but I discipline [to strike under the eye] my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.”

1 Cor. 9:26-27

ROMANS 7:24-25



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PRACTICAL QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF IN THE BATTLE



- 1) Is this the flesh or is this the Spirit?
 - 2) Is this the inner me or the outer me?
 - 3) Is this the part of me that delights in the Lord or is this the part of me that delights in sin?
- ❖ Start recognizing the two parties at war with each other.