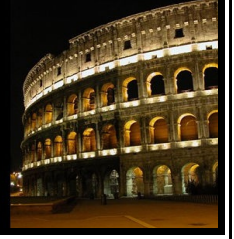


Paul's Epistle to the ROMANS

3/21/2021 AM

"Dead to the Law" Romans 7:1-13



Introduction:

This section of Romans focuses on three contrasts...

Romans 6
Romans 7
Romans 8

We are:
free from sin
free from the Law
free from death

Yet we:
must battle against sin
are not free from its criteria for righteousness
long for the redemption of the body

I. THE JURISDICTION OF THE LAW (vs. 1-6)

A. The Axiom (vs. 1)

"Or do you not know, brethren (for I am speaking to those who know the law)..."

"...that the law has jurisdiction over a person as long as he lives?"

B. The Analogy (vs. 2-3)

"For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living"

"but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband."

"So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress"

"but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man."

C. The Application (vs. 4-6)

"Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ"

"so that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead"

"in order that we might bear fruit for God"

"For while we were in the flesh, the sinful passions, which were aroused by the Law, were at work in the members of our body to bear fruit for death."

"But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound"

"so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter"

II. THE MINISTRY OF THE LAW (vs. 7-13)

A. The Law Exposes Sin (vs. 7)

“What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? May it never be!”

“On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law”

“for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, ‘You shall not COVET.’”

B. The Law Excites Sin (vs. 8-9)

“But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind”

“for apart from the Law sin is dead.”

“I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died”

C. The Law Exploits the Sinner (vs. 10-11)

“and this commandment, which was to result in life, proved to result in death for me”

“for sin, taking an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me”

D. The Law Exhibits the Sinfulness of Sin (vs. 12-13)

“So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.”

“Therefore did that which is good become a cause of death for me? May it never be!”

“Rather it was sin, in order that it might be shown to be sin by effecting my death through that which is good...”

“...so that through the commandment sin would become utterly sinful.”

Conclusion:

- 1) The believer cannot be committed to the Law and to Christ at the same time.
- 2) To be released from the Law is to serve the goal of the Law in a new way - by pursuing righteousness in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- 3) The Christian life is a lifelong challenge of directing your heart to the glory of God.

Food for Thought:

- 1) Why does Paul use marriage to illustrate the rule of sin in our lives? How would you define spiritual adultery?
- 2) How does the law stir us to sin more?
- 3) How have you seen righteousness realized in your life by focusing on the Spirit's help rather than the letter of the law?
- 4) What descriptive adjectives does Paul use of the Law here? How does that square with your understanding of the Law previously?