

Prologue

When a person considers Chapter Seven of the books of Romans they will find that it is the foundation of our faith in God's love to the human race. Without the Apostle Paul's candid expressions in his own failings, we simply could not understand our wrestling within ourselves of spirit, and law, and the subject of grace in our lives.

Moreover, it should be set out from the start of our faith in Jesus Christ that without God's Holy Spirit in us, we cannot understand the words of Paul, in context to the truth. The writings of Paul to the Romans were Holy Spirit led; from a heart born again by God's will, and not mans. In light of this, and only under this truth, can we find truth, and may we understand Paul's words to the Romans in Chapter Seven; where Christ Jesus headship vs. the Old Law headship, is put on trial by Paul.

There are but two roads in a Christians life, one is narrow, and cramped, and the other broad and spacious leading into destruction. The narrow road is spirit led, leading us into the life of Jesus Christ, the other is law led, leading into the destruction, and death found in the condemnation of Old Law itself. All things built upon any other foundation, but Christ Jesus, will come to a fiery end at the revealing of God's Son from heaven at the time of His judgment of our world. Those who have built upon the rock-mass of Christ Jesus will be free from God's coming judgment because they have been grafted into the body of Christ Jesus, which has no judgment against it by God's laws of the flesh.

There is no partiality in God's judgments under Old Law or in Christ Jesus the New Law, both are a choice we must make. We either prove ourselves righteousness under sins law, or for that matter mans laws, or we accept Jesus Christ righteousness as our own, which in turn removes our judgment under Law. Jesus while on earth set up for his body true worship that can only be understood by God's Holy Spirit; God and His Son are not partial, both are Spirit Person governed by love, thus, we have become part of both, the Father, and Son by the Holy Spirit; likewise we must become spirit, that is, we must worship God in spirit and truth.

The Law provided no place in worshiping God in spirit and truth. It did provide a physical place of worship. Although many modern day Christians groups use both the Old Law, and the teachings of spirit in their worship, subsequently mixing both into doctrines of religions. They do not produce the fruitages of God's Spirit, they do produce, however, works of the flesh, which causes division, and sects, not unity of love in spirit and truth.

Justifying mixing the the Old Law into the worship of God in spirit and truth they become bad trees producing fruits of death, not the life found in Christ Jesus, but rather death, and corruptions under the laws of flesh for sin.

Paul's inspired words in Romans the Seventh Chapter sets the stage for the foundation in Christ Jesus aright for us, and it strengthen our faith in walking in love, and not law.

Without this vital information Christians like the early Romans Christians will mixes laws for the sinful flesh, that is, the Old Law, with teachings of spirit and truth, thus, producing polluted waters others to partakers thereof. May God bless you in the undeserved kindness of the free gift of God's love, in Jesus Christ.

Rev.22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" He who hears, let him say, "Come!" He who is thirsty, let him come. He who desires, let him take the water of life freely.

THE BOOK OF ROMANS CHAPTER 7

The book of Romans

Chapter 7

Rom.7:1 Or don't you know, brothers{The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."} (for I speak to men who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man for as long as he lives?

The Apostle Paul speaks to brothers and sister that know the Law given to Moses, which is termed the Old Law. Here he states a fact of the Law that as long as person is alive they are under the Law, they can only be free of from the Law at their death, but why?

It is because the wages of sin is death, the Law exposes sin in us, and convicts us of that sin, and the penalty for our sin is death. So as long as we are alive in our flesh we under God's Law or judgment, we cannot get around it, even if we don't know the Law. But Paul is setting the stage for a much large discussion of God's Law, that is, the power of Christ Jesus to free us from the Law while we are still alive in our sinful flesh.

The Apostle Paul will uses the Laws power, and the sacred relationship of marriage in proving beyond a shadow of doubt why the Law had to be removed in order for us to be in Christ Jesus, and brought into peace with God.

Rom. 7:2 For the woman that has a husband is bound by law to the husband while he lives, but if the husband dies, she is discharged from the law of the husband.

Under the Law men held ownership of their wife/wives, God allowed such ownership by His own Law; the husbands lesser laws were also binding upon the woman, so as long as her husband lived she was bond to him by his rules, and God's laws. There was no human power that could remove the husbands law over his wife accept by his death, or hers death, why?

Once again the wages of sins are paid by with the death of the sinner, so at death the Law is fulfilled in that person case, it no longer has power over the person because they have paid the price for their sins on earth. Thus, a woman would be free of her husbands laws/rules, but not free of God's Law herself because she is still alive.

So the Apostle Paul makes the point of how we are freed from God's Law which is through our death. We must died to be set free from the obligation, or payment of the Law for our sins, otherwise we are still sinners condemn to the death penalty for our sin. In other words, once convicted for the crime one must pay the penalty of the crime, if one escapes the penalty it has not been paid, thus, as long as the person is "alive" they have not escaped the penalty for their crime still hanging over their head, which is death.

If they die on the run the penalty for their crime cannot go beyond death, the law is satisfied with the penalty of death, all lesser laws of man are also paid off by the death of the criminal. They will not be executed against them they have paid the price by their death. Furthermore, they have paid the price for their sins against God's Law. So if we understand the penalty of sin is death, or we do not, we all pay the price! Moreover, if a person lives a godless life running with the world they pay no greater payment for their sins than one does living according to God's Laws. The wages sins pays is death.

Rom.6:7 For he who has died has been freed from sin.

Rom.7:3 So then if, while the husband lives, she is joined to another man, she would be called an adulteress. But if the husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is no adulteress, though she is joined to another man.

We must understands Paul's words in contexts to his letter to the Romans, he is not counseling the Roman's regarding marriage as some understand his words here to mean, which are out of context, no he is not. What Paul is explaining is the Law, and its power over the living, he is setting the stage for our being released from the Law while still living in our flesh. This thought is superhuman and beyond the power of man, it must come to us through God's power.

However, for the Romans brothers and sisters not to understand what God has done for them is equal in going back under the Law they were set free from through the great price of Christ Jesus own life.

Jesus himself stated the power of the Law cannot be removed in his Sermon on the Mount:

Matt: 5:17 "Don't think that I came to destroy the law or the prophets. I didn't come to destroy, but to fulfill. 5:18 For most certainly, I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not even one smallest letter{literally, iota} or one tiny pen stroke{or, serif} shall in any way pass away from the law, until all things are accomplished.

The power of the Law is nullified in our death, or in Paul's discussion the woman is styled as an adulteress if she is with another man while her husband is alive, but if he dies she is free to marry again, and will not be considered an adulteress. Death of her husband frees her from his laws as her husband. But we must remember the point of Paul's words, we cannot be partly under the Law and in Christ Jesus we must be completely freed from the Law to united to another headship, which, in this case would be Jesus Christ.

By having some of the Law and some of Christ Jesus we are style an adulteress, we are either under the headship of the Old Law, or under Christ Jesus headship, but not both at the same time. Either the husband, or the wife must die to set the other free of the Laws power over the living one, that is, to be released from their obligation of the Law too each other in their marriage.

Romans 7:4 Therefore, my brothers, you also were made dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you would be joined to another, to him who was raised from the dead, that we might bring forth fruit to God.

A Christian is under one headship, and that is Christ Jesus headship, we are to obey our master, and Lord over any other laws this includes God's Old Law and man's law, even those found in doctrine of a group we associate with.

We cannot have two headships, and we cannot obey two masters, moreover, we cannot be alive in Christ, and under death of the laws of the flesh. We must be completed joined to Christ Jesus intimately a part of his body, just as Eve was created by God from Adams rib for her to be joined to him.

so we are created by God to be part of Jesus Christ body. Eve listened to another headship rather than her husbandly owner, and was deceived into sin and death.

Christians' that listen to the headship of the Law will likewise be deceived into sin, and death again, dying twice as it were. Unwittingly, adulterating themselves by adding too the headship of Christ Jesus. We have been created by God and placed into the body of Christ Jesus, thus, are being placed in Christ Jesus we receive his life, and death, freeing us from the Law.

We are now joined to another, who has paid the price of our sins, in the death of Christ Jesus body. Because we are now a part of Christ Jesus as our head or husbandly owner we receive his "righteousness", not ours own. Our old life under God's Law is "dead" now we can be joined to Christ Jesus as our new head as one spirit; if we separate ourselves and join ourselves to another, in this case, the Law, we are a adulteress adding pollution to the purity of Christ Jesus headship. But because we are in a honorable God accepted marriage we produce fruits of God's Spirit, not illegitimate fruits of the Old Law in self-righteous works. Although the Old Law tries to seduce us making us unfaithful to Christ Jesus our head, we spiritually war with the power of the Old Law, and those wheeling it to control and captivate us again to deaths Law with the power of God's Holy Spirit.

1Cor.11:3 But I would have you know that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is the man, and the head of Christ is God.

2 Corinthians 10:4 for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but mighty before God to the throwing down of strongholds.

Romans 7:5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were through the law, worked in our members to bring forth fruit to death.

It is not strange that Paul uses the idea of sin passions being excited by the Law when he had just considered the subject of adultery above. Fittingly the excitement of the flesh in adultery is the equal to those is Christ Jesus denying their headship and consorting once again with the laws of the flesh. The Law excites the nature of our sinful flesh by bring it into the light of Law. Which only creates more sin in our members by exposing them to the judgment of the Law. Returning to our former marriage partner the Old Laws headship denies Christ Jesus headship after be setting free from the Law, making us illegitimate to both headships, thus, we are better off not being born again by Holy Spirit into Christ Jesus.

Paul further make his point of a body dying through infect members, that is, the fleshly body dies when part of it is infected with a disease. The whole body can dies from one little part that is diseased which spreads too the rest of its members.

In this case a little leaven of the sins under Law ferments the whole body of Christ Jesus, how? As Paul just stated, the Law exposes, and produces sin in us, thus, sin produces death. Moreover, the wages of sin is death. The fruits of the tree of Law are death, but the fruits of Christ Jesus is Spirit and life. One is darkness, and the other light, but the two cannot mix without adulterating both. Sin is dead in the body of Christ, it has been put to death by our being buried in Christ at our new birth, but when sin is once again excited we find the power of the Old Law, not the law of love.

Rom. 7:6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held; so that we serve in newness of the spirit, and not in oldness of the letter.

We are discharged from the power of the Law in Christ Jesus, we are no longer under the Law's headship. Although the headship is good, and righteous it is never the less death to us. So as much as we love the Law of God we cannot be joined to it in life, that is the life of Christ Jesus, we are only condemned by its power under death.

We have been joined to another, our headship is life because our Master, and Lord Christ Jesus is life, we are one with him, thus, we receive his life in us. Our life is new with a new spirit of love, not the old letter of the Law producing death in our members by judgments; but rather a new spirit of freedom in Christ Jesus being under the New Covenant of Love. This is a new marriage covenant with God's love, which in turn free us from the harsh demands of the Old Law headship into the glorious freedom of the Son's of God.

Thus, we are discharged from the power of the Law, and what is its power? That of exposing our sins, which producing death. We are discharged from our sin, into life, how? We have paid the price of sin, which is death, by our death in Jesus Christ, in the free gift of Christ Jesus life. In other words, we were placed into Christ Jesus as a body part, and made one with him, we receive his death, and life as our because we are part of his body. We are bought and paid for by his blood, he is our head, we do his will, no longer the will of the Law's headship producing in us sin and death.

We have left the tutorship of Law's headship becoming one spirit in marriage to Christ Jesus, we no longer are one flesh with the Old Law of the flesh producing death in us.

Galatians 3:24 So that the law has become our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Galatians 3:25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

Rom.7:7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? May it never be! However, I wouldn't have known sin, except through the law. For I wouldn't have known coveting, unless the law had said, "You shall not covet." {Exodus 20:17; Deuteronomy 5:21}

God did not place a unrighteous headship over the nation of Israel, He placed a righteous headship over his people the Law, which is a tutor leading to the headship of Christ Jesus. Paul was not going to declare the Law of God as unrighteous, never may that be so! The Law is perfect it cannot be broken with out consequences, the consequences for breaking the Law is death. Simply put, the Law is perfect because God is the Law, and He is perfect, but we are imperfect, so the Law proves we our sinners because we cannot obey it as we should.

Thus, if there is no Law than there is not sin, removing the Law removed our sins, and this is the cruxes of Paul's further reasoning in this part of his letter to the Romans. Law measure human conduct, it is a marker that judges our conduct, wither it is upright according to its standard or not? Because the standard of eternal life is the fabric of the Old Law, none of us can meet it. Thus, all the Law can do for us is expose our sins, which produce death. In other words, this is why all humans are dying, we now know why because of the Law convicts of sin, that is, teaches us through coercion of death, the law is found true and all men liars who teach otherwise, death itself proves the power of the laws conviction.

Moreover, the law cannot give us life, because we can't measure up to it high standards, so we are condemned by it rather than declared righteous through its standards. We are judged rather than set free from our sins under the Law. The Law is righteous, but it produce more sin in us in pointing up our sins. But if there were no law to judge us and convict us, than our sins would not be counted against us.

Rom.7:8 But sin, finding occasion through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of coveting. For apart from the law, sin is dead.

A part from law sin is dead! Paul here is setting the stage to show the power of Christ Jesus. Sins could eventually be removed from the humans race, or Christ Jesus through fulfilling the Law removes the Laws judgment, killing the power of sin over us, putting it to death immediately.

Yes, Jesus Christ removed the Law, thus, sin is dead for those in Christ Jesus, he did not take our sin out of us, he simple removed the thing judging us as sinners. This is incomprehensible, to human reasoning, only love could allow for such a thing as this, a complete pardon of our sin!

However, we are still sinners, but our judgment has been removed in Christ Jesus, thus, making the power of sin dead towards us. God fulfills His words to the prophets of old by casting our sins into the sea, so far from us they are remembered no more by Him in Christ Jesus.

Micah 7:18 Who is a God like you, who pardons iniquity, and passes over the disobedience of the remnant of his heritage? He doesn't retain his anger forever, because he delights in loving kindness. 7:19 He will again have compassion on us. He will tread our iniquities under foot; and you will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

Sin is dead in us, not because sin is removed from us, no! It is because the Law exposing our sins has been removed so our sin are dead. The thing removing the Law is Jesus Christ holy blood which paid the price, or ransom for our sins. He paid the debt we owed for our sins, his blood atoned for our sins. In other words, because we are apart of Christ Jesus we receive the gift of his perfect life.

Romans 6:4 We were buried therefore with him through baptism to death, that just like Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

Colossians 2:12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Rom. 7:9 I was alive apart from the law once, but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.

Paul here personifies his own life to make a point, which is, if there is no Law than there is no death, the Law judges us as sinners, and the penalty is death for transgression against the Law. But if there is no Law than there is no transgression, furthermore, there is no penalty for transgressions the law, thus, there can be no death, just life.

Paul knew that all humans die because of sin passed on to them from Adam the father to the human race. Paul wrote this information in his early writings to the Romans, he was not stating that he had eternal life before the Law, but he was making a vital point to the Romans that Law produce death in us. Paul next states that when the commandments came (remember in context this would have been thousands of years before Paul's lived on earth). In other words, when Paul now understood the commandments, he was judged according to the Law of God. At this point sin revived in him, and he died. Paul could no longer believe he had earned life though his own goodness, or his own merit, the Law now convicted him otherwise, as a sinner.

Many new Christians, and some older ones feel that they are special in the sense of being better or of greater holiness, thinking this being them more favored with God, this is greater than others. In other words, they feel they deserve life by their personal goodness perform in works. Perhaps, Paul experience this foolishness at some point in his own life. Nevertheless, the Law made sure he could not live in such a fancy a lie any longer, he would have to deal with his true condition of his sinful flesh, as well as we all do when coming to the truth in Christ Jesus.

Rom.7:10 The commandment, which was for life, this I found to be for death;

God is good and all perfect gifts come down from the Father of lights, the Law came down from God through Moses, the Law is life, the Law is righteous because God is righteous, the Law is life because God is life. If we could live according to the Law perfectly we would have life eternal, which is the reward for not violating God's Law.

The commandments are life, but they produce death in us, not life, why? The Law cannot remove our sins which were passed down to us from Adam, the Law simply judges them as transgression. Thus, the Law is a curse to us because it cannot give us life, although Law is good, and righteous we cannot be saved by it into eternal life with God, because we are sinners.

Paul found that although he loved the Law, and even killed Christ Jesus disciples for the Law, it produced death in him. In other words, his righteous anger against those he felt violated the Law could not earn him into life with God. In fact, in the final analysis he too found himself condemned by the very Law he loved, the law he executed upon others by death for their transgressions.

Acts 8:1 Saul was consenting to his death. A great persecution arose against the assembly which was in Jerusalem in that day. They were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except for the apostles.

Acts 8:3 But Saul ravaged the assembly, entering into every house, and dragged both men and women off to prison.

Acts 9:1 But Saul, still breathing threats and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest.

Acts 9:4 He fell on the earth, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

Rom.7:11 for sin, finding occasion through the commandment, deceived me, and through it killed me.

Paul found himself deceived by the very thing he loved with a zeal, the Law. He now found that his emotions would not enter into the judgment of God's law, the Law is not partial, nor is the God that gave us the Law. The law had no mercy as Paul himself had no mercy towards those he killed for seemingly violating God's Law.

Yes, the Law now killed Paul with same mercy he has shown Christ Jesus disciples before he became the Apostle Paul. And above all Paul knew the Law, and power it holds over those walking in flesh rather than by God Spirit. He understood the deceptive heart found in all humans, and the natural inclination to judges others into death by the Law.

Jer. 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and it is exceedingly corrupt: who can know it?

Rom.3:10 As it is written, "There is no one righteous; no, not one. Rom. 3:11 There is no one who understands. There is no one who seeks after God. 3:12 They have all turned aside. They have together become unprofitable. There is no one who does good, no, not, so much as one."{Psalms 14:1-3; 53:1-3; Ecclesiastes 7:20} 3:13 "Their throat is an open tomb. With their tongues they have used deceit."{Psalm 5:9} "The poison of vipers is under their lips;"{Psalm 140:3} 3:14 "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness."{Psalm 10:7}

Rom.3:15 "Their feet are swift to shed blood. 3:16 Destruction and misery are in their ways. 3:17 The way of peace, they haven't known."{Isaiah 59:7-8} 3:18 "There is no fear of God before their eyes."{Psalm 36:1} 3:19 Now we know that whatever things the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may be brought under the judgment of God.

Each Christian of the Roman congregation must understand the purpose of the Law, or they too would be deceived as Paul himself had been deceived through self-righteousness into judging one another to death through God's Law. Even though Paul openly murdered the disciples of Christ Jesus, those now in Christ Jesus could inwardly murder their own brothers if they practice the Law denying Christ by coming back under the power of its headship again.

Matt.5:21 "You have heard that it was said to the ancient ones, 'You shall not murder;'{Exodus 20:13} and 'Whoever shall murder shall be in danger of the judgment.'

Matt.5:22 But I tell you, that everyone who is angry with his brother without a cause{NU omits "without a cause".} shall be in danger of the judgment; and whoever shall say to his brother, 'Raca{'Raca' is an Aramaic insult, related to the word for "empty" and conveying the idea of empty-headedness.}!' shall be in danger of the council; and whoever shall say, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of the fire of Gehenna. {or, Hell}

Rom.7:12 Therefore the law indeed is holy, and the commandment holy, and righteous, and good.

The Law of God is indeed holy, righteous, and good, it is from the source of holiness, righteousness, and goodness, God. Judging Law by law does not help a Christian under God's love, that is, laws puts objects into groups of good, and evil, Paul here breaks up that thinking pattern in stating, the Law is good!

When we judge by law thinking, we must assume because God did away with Law then something must have been wrong with it, it must of been lacking or evil. But no, not at all! The Law as stated was perfect as the creator of the Law, but we are imperfect, and cannot meet the requirements' of the Law, thus, the Law being perfect points out our sins. God cannot remove that which is perfect and is not removable; heaven and earth can be removed, but not the very Law that sustain life in both heavens and earth.

So God in His great love for us, sent us His love, how? By fulfilling the Law individually in our case. He substituted His Son's righteousness for our unrighteousness according to the Law. He substituted His Son's sinlessness for our sins. God removed our judgment by His perfect Law, in substituting His Son's life for our life, which our life according too his law is deserving of death. This process is called grace, or the undeserved kindness of God, may we continual to walk in this love.

Rom.7:13 Did then that which is good become death to me? May it never be! But sin, that it might be shown to be sin, by working death to me through that which is good; that through the commandment sin might become exceeding sinful.

One might see the Law as a magnifying glass, the power of which increase as knowledge of the Law is increases. However, the power of the magnifying glass is more often turned against others rather than ourselves in judging their imperfection, and not our own.

And this is why love, is greater than knowledge\, love removed God's uses of the magnifying glass in our case. But we individually must learn love for one another; in removing our uses of the magnifying glass against others.

God is the only one with the right to use the Law against us, but He chooses love instead. He gives us a substitute in taking our place under His magnifying glass. He then allowed the substitute to give us his holy life blood to washes away our sins that God had exposed while we were under the magnifying glass. That is, God made the greatest purchases in all eternity by the blood of Jesus Christ paying the price for our sins, and removing the magnifying glass so we no longer have our sins condemning us by the Law in Jesus Christ.

The commandments gave the magnifying glass greater power, although we humans can use it for evil does not, however, make the magnifying glass evil. It is our own sinful heart that makes the use of the magnifying glass evil.

Matt. 7:1 "Don't judge, so that you won't be judged. 7:2 For with whatever judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with whatever measure you measure, it will be measured to you. 7:3 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but don't consider the beam that is in your own eye?

7:4 Or how will you tell your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye;' and behold, the beam is in your own eye? 7:5 You hypocrite! First remove the beam out of your own eye, and then you can see clearly to remove the speck out of your brother's eye.

Rom.7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am fleshly, sold under sin.

Yes, the Law of God is spiritual because God is a Spirit Person, but we humans are born of the sinful flesh passed on to us by Adam. God created us with a spirit as well as flesh we are then spirits of flesh. In the beginning Adam was led by spirit over his flesh, his flesh was kept in perfect harmony with God righteous holy law. Once Adam sinned his flesh killed his spirit, thus, his connection to the Spirit God was severed in that moment/day he died spiritually. Sin weakens Adam's spirit, thus, Law producing sin weakens our spirit and the law excites sin producing more sin killing the spirit in us.

No longer could Adam connect to the source of life the Spirit person of God. He found himself as Paul now found himself; in a wrestling with spirit and flesh. Adam's choice sold him under the power of sin and condemnation of God's Law for sin; Paul found himself unwillingly sold under the same sin of Adam's, not by his choice, but by the Law's choice in saying so.

We all find ourselves in the same place wanting to do good, but finding more often than not doing bad, causing death to our spirit, killed by the laws of flesh. This was the point of Paul's words to the Romans, but Paul would not leave it at that, it was not enough, he would show us how God would provide a way out by His great love.

Rom.7:15 For I don't know what I am doing. For I don't practice what I desire to do; but what I hate, that I do.

How penetrating of truth here spoken by Paul; he did not speak with any hypocrisy on the contrary he openly under the power of God's Holy Spirit confessed his sins that which we all confess secretly. Those still under Law would have us believe they have total control over their flesh, and they know at all times what they are doing in their flesh. But it is a lie! When jealousy enters into ones heart, or suddenly the lust for the opposite sex, or perhaps we hate some one over the littlest thing in our heart.

However, we hid this truth from other, but inwardly we know the truth that sometimes as Paul stated above we don't know why evil comes into our hearts at times. Our mind may judge our sin as justified according to the Law, but still our sinful flesh sold under sins law overpowers our spirit and our best intentions, such a fearful thought. Hate comes when we try to control something out of our control, next comes fear when we realize we have no control of some factor in our lives. Thus, law produces fear, not love for God, God's is love, and love throws all fear outside, so love has no laws of judgment against it.

John 4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear has punishment. He who fears is not made perfect in love.

So we have a choice as Paul found out; do we run to more Law for security and more control of our lives, or do we confess our sins to God and find forgiveness? One leads to greater hate, and fear for God and others, but why? The more law is increased for protection the greater knowledge increase of our own sins in us, so the greater the fear of God's judgment. When we don't confess our sin openly to God, but hide them in knowledge of Law we are judged without mercy under Law. This creates a vicious circle, we now judge others by the same law this often ends in murder of our brothers or sisters through judgments in our heart held against them unforgivingly. Paul was himself a victim of his zealous love for the Law, he killed Christ Jesus disciples before his own conversion into Christ Jesus the body of Christ Jesus.

James 4:1 Where do wars and fightings among you come from? Don't they come from your pleasures that war in your members? 4:2 You lust, and don't have. You kill, covet, and can't obtain. You fight and make war. You don't have, because you don't ask. 4:3 You ask, and don't receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it for your pleasures.

4:4 You adulterers and adulteresses, don't you know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

James 4:5 Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, "The Spirit who lives in us yearns jealously"? 4:6 But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." {Proverbs 3:34} 4:7 Be subject therefore to God. But resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Rom.7:16 But if what I don't desire, that I do, I consent to the law that it is good.

The Apostle Paul is now forced to admit his true condition under the Law, and that is the purpose of the Law; so we may see our truth condition from God eyes, not our own hearts eyes. As strong as the well of some people flesh is they all must admit they sins when seeing themselves in light of God's perfect Law.

So Paul now found the Law is better than his opinion of himself, or judgment of himself and it was stronger than his self-well, why? Because he could not control himself perfectly enough in order not to break God's Laws, which, he loved more than himself. This great disappointment devastated any hope Paul had in himself, he must consent, he needed something greater than God's Laws to save him. How could he a devote Jew speak, or think such an apostasy, being himself being a teacher of Law?

But he had found the truth because he had honestly examined himself under God's Law. He could not justify his sin through zeal for the Law, he could not justify his love for the Law as an excuse for his own sins. He must openly confess his sins before God. But what thoughts must of remained in Paul's mind? How could he murder and be forgiven under God's Law, it allowed for nothing like that? Paul had physically murder Christ Jesus disciples, and certainly had murder in his heart for those disobeying God's Law.

Rom.7:17 So now it is no more I that do it, but sin which dwells in me.

Paul here legally separates sin from himself in this manner he could objectively understand how God see the human race, and himself in dealing with our sins moderately. Paul understood the issue from Adams time forward, the desire of the spirit is less than the sinful flesh desires. No matter how great to please God our desire does not appease the requirements of God Law for justice.

No matter our zeal for the Law's righteousness, or the love for the Law it does not give us a better standing with God than God demand for Justice. The wages sin pays is death, sin kills the spirit in us and weaken it so we cannot meet God's perfect requirement of the Law. Paul had once confused himself with his great zeal for the law, now he must think in cold legal terms without emotion to understand God's impartiality when judging Paul according to His Law.

God hates sin, but not the spirit of Paul desiring to please Him. God's justice must be executed on Paul, as Paul himself executed judgment on Law breakers.

God would satisfy the Law justice, in substituting a sinless life for Paul's own life. Paul could not satisfy the Law's justice with his own life, he could not earn enough merit under the Law by his love for the Law to redeem himself from the perfect justice of God's Law.

Proverbs 20:23 Yahweh detests differing weights, and dishonest scales are not pleasing.

Proverbs 18:5 To be partial to the faces of the wicked is not good, nor to deprive the innocent of justice.

Leviticus 19:15 "You shall do no injustice in judgment: you shall not be partial to the poor, nor show favoritism to the great; but you shall judge your neighbor in righteousness.

James 2:9 But if you show partiality, you commit sin, being convicted by the law as transgressors.

Rom. 7:18 For I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, dwells no good thing. For desire is present with me, but I don't find it doing that which is good.

All sin is evil, there is nothing good in sin, the law shows us to be sinners; sin resides in our flesh, the flesh can be so exceedingly sinful it destroys the spirit or the good in us. Paul must deal with this hard reality the Law exposed in him, he is a sinner and nothing good dwells his flesh because of sin. Although his desire of his spirit is strong to love God and do good his sinful flesh wins out.

Proverbs 20:9 Who can say, "I have made my heart pure. I am clean and without sin?"

God's Law see evil (sin) in Paul, God does not accept evil and good found in Paul as pure worship, He does not mix wickedness with goodness and call it light.

Paul finds himself condemned with no way out. No matter what his godly spirit desired in severing God, no matter his zeal for God's law, he is a polluted person with sin. He cannot with his desire satisfy the Law's requirements. He cannot do enough good according to the Law that he so loves, and worships in removing his own sin.

The more he digs into the Law the greater the depth of his sinfulness against God's perfect law becomes, the more he looks for good in himself to satisfy God's justice the greater he finds God's condemnation against him by God's righteous standards. He must confess the truth because he loves the Law; "nothing good dwell in my flesh, according to God's righteous judgment of me".

John 6:63 It is the spirit who gives life. The flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and are life.

John 8:7 But when they continued asking him, he looked up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw the first stone at her."

Rom.7:19 For the good which I desire, I don't do; but the evil which I don't desire, that I practice.

Some would concluded at face value in reading Paul words here he practiced evil within the society he lived, but no. Paul was an exemplary Jew, he was foremost in obeying God's law with zeal, so how did he practice evil? Humans divided evil into degrees of damage done too society, but God does not, sin is evil to God, God is good, and without sin.

1 John 3:4 Everyone who sins also commits lawlessness. Sin is lawlessness.

James 3:16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition are, there is confusion and every evil deed.

James 4:16 But now you glory in your boasting. All such boasting is evil.

1 Peter 2:1 Putting away therefore all wickedness, all deceit, hypocrisies, envies, and all evil speaking.

Paul practice evil because he could not, not be a sinner; his sin was born into him like all human on earth, and that is why we died. In other words, sin practice in Paul because it cannot be removed as part of him. Thus, the Law condemned Paul as practicing sinner. Under the justice of the Law one practicing sin, must be put too death, the wages sin pays is death.

Many Christians believe their desire is enough to please God, Paul found out his desire was not enough to satisfy God justice according to the Law. Some also believe the closer they get too the Law the better their standing they have with God, this too is a lie. Our deepest desire to practice the Law better does not satisfy God's justice for our sins.

Rom.7:20 But if what I don't desire, that I do, it is no more I that do it, but sin which dwells in me.

Paul now gives personality to his sin, separating it will from his spirit, or his spirit desire to serve God. Paul does not make his sin a part of his personality, so that he can deal with it according to God's law. In other words, Paul is saying, the sin in my flesh is so powerful that it over rules the will of my spirit. If I don't separated the two from myself I cannot live within myself.

It is not my will, but sins will in me that I do, I can logically see the power of sins will controlling me, and I know that the good I do is not enough because the bad of my sin undoes all the good I do. Legally I cannot earn my way out of this dilemma. I am powerless, in removing the sin from myself, whereby, I thought the Law would removed it, it only make sin greater in me. The deeper I know the law the deeper my judgment!

Paul could no longer delude himself by any personal goodness trying to making up for his evil (sin) under the Law. He must face God's Law and the reality of his own condition.

Rom.7:21 I find then the law, that, to me, while I desire to do good, evil is present.

Paul found his experience painful, while judging others, taking their own right to life, while he now understood he himself was judged evil under God's Law.

1 Peter 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears open to their prayer; but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."{Psalm 34:12-16}

Paul had received a reality check, while thinking because of his love for the Law God exempt him justifying his sins against the Laws justice. Many Christians find themselves in this hopeless state after judging other to death by God's Law, or the rules of their group now finding the more they judge the more they are judged, why?

Will the more knowledge we have of the Law the greater our own judgment is under the Law. We cannot judge according to God's Law without judging ourselves. Paul finally understood this that he to was evil under the Law convicted as a practicing sin because he could not get read of it by practicing the law, he too deserving death. The more he understood about the Law, or the deeper he dug into the Law, to judge others, he found more judgment against himself, but why? Because the Law has no personality it is not partial, it was written on stone not on fleshly hearts of love.

Paul found no mercy under the Law, he found reproach, condemnation, death, and a curse, not God's love he had imagine for his zeal for God's Law.

Rom. 7:22 For I delight in God's law after the inward man, 7:23 but I see a different law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity under the law of sin which is in my members.

The Jews in their history had often times been lead into captivity God's punishment for disobeying His Laws. Although, their captivity was under the cruelest nations, Paul tells us of a captivity equally cruel claiming the lives of every person on earth, sin. This captor is evil, and wicked causing the whole human race to fall too sickness, disease, and death.

No matter what Paul's mind concluded, or his spirit desired he found his fleshly will under the power of this cruelest captor - sin. Paul had lost his freedom to do as he willed, although his mind thought he had the will to do as he pleased, the Law convicted otherwise, he now faced the truth of sin captivity leading to death.

Paul was lead not by his good desires, but by his evil desire under sin, and when he warred with sins his good desire lost, because he was still a sinner under the power of his captor. There could have been no more of a hopeless situation for a person to be in. Paul being a slave under the control of his captor; believing that he has been free by his captor (the Law). Moreover, convincing oneself that their love of freedom was going to remove their captivity, and then finding out it was their own desire for freedom that actually deceived themselves into more captivity of sin. Paul was just such a man, believing his love for Law was freedom, only to be deceived by the very god he worshiped that he actually was left in cruel captivity too a slave of sins law

Rom.7:24 What a wretched man I am! Who will deliver me out of the body of this death?

Paul now faced his greatest challenge of his life, the Law was not going to save him. In fact, it would enslave him more to his sins; nothing that he had practice under Law his whole life could bring him merit before God. He could not appeal to a higher court of justice he was condemned to death by the highest court of justice in the universe.

All of his deepest desires were futile, all of the years in practicing Law was of no value in removing one ounce, an iota of sin from his members, he was a condemned man. And no amount of pleading with God was going to change his judgment.

Found in this condition Paul stated the absolute truth all humans find themselves in: “what a wretched man I am!” ‘What hope do I have, all my plans, all my works, all my wrangling over Law; has left me wretched. I have nothing to offer to God.’”

Law, knowledge, wisdom, even fear of God, cannot save me; the prophets have failed me, and my own understanding had deceive me into death; where indeed could Paul turn for salvation?

Rom.7:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ, our Lord! So then with the mind, I myself serve God's law, but with the flesh, the sin's law.

Although Paul had killed the body of Christ on earth he now turned to the only hope for mankind under the heavens, Jesus Christ, God’s own love too us, the Law could not save him. So Paul looked to Jesus Christ righteousness, in replacing his own righteousness under law to free him from his captivity to sins law.

Thank be to God for his great mercy towards us, we now have a savior from sins captivity and death in Jesus Christ. We have been joined into freedom in Christ Jesus headship, no longer are we under the cruel captor of sin. Now we understand there nothing within ourselves that can save us, but God’s love for us in Jesus Christ. So now our minds are fixed on one single point, Jesus Christ, God’s new law of love too us, but our flesh is still sinful under sins law.

But we can now served God’s fully in loves law because the Laws judgment against us has been removed in Jesus Christ. We stand sinless in Christ Jesus before God, God Spirit joins with our spirit in over coming the will of sinful flesh; it conquers the worlds corruption through the God's love for us in Jesus Christ.

Although we still have sin in our flesh, God’s judgment for our sin, that is, the Law is removed in Jesus Christ. Moreover, God gives us the gift of Himself through the Holy Spirit to bind with our spirit in teaching us the laws of love so we no longer come under the cruel headship of the Old Law.

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