

lower nature that is killing me? He then exclaims, Thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord did it! He set me free!"

3. In Romans 7:25:

(a) What does Paul tell us with the mind he himself serves? _____

(b) What does he tell us his flesh serves in that same verse? _____

SEVENTH STUDY

SANCTIFICATION THROUGH DEATH TO LAW THE LAW AND SIN (Romans 7:1-6)

Paul now, begins to speak to the Romans, who know the law. He tells them that the law is in force over a man as long as he lives. Then he begins to associate the law to that of marriage. He explains to them that they are not bound to the law when they are dead to the law by the body of Christ, because they are now married to another, Jesus, that they can now bring forth fruit unto God.

1. Being delivered from the law, and dead to that bondage, how does Paul say we should serve God? (Romans 7:6)_____

THE PROBLEM WITH INDWELLING SIN (Romans 7:7-12)

The law makes known what sin really is. If the law didn't tell us, *Thou shalt not covet* (Exodus 20:17), we would not know that lust was a sin (Romans 7:7).

The law was not sinful, but Paul says it was the law that showed him his sin. He would never have known the sin in his heart if the law had not told him he must not have evil desires in his heart. Sin, then, had used the law to come against evil desires by reminding Paul that these desires are wrong, and arousing all kinds of forbidden desires within him. If there were no laws to break, there would be

no sinning (from Romans 7:8).

Romans 7:9-11, LB----That is why I felt fine so long as I did not understand what the law really demanded. But when I learned the truth, I realized that I had broken the law and was a sinner, doomed to die. So as far as I was concerned, the good law which was supposed to show me the way of life resulted instead in my being given the death penalty.

Sin fooled me by taking the good laws of God and using them to make me guilty of death.

Sin here is pictured as a self-acting spirit which at one time controlled Paul and worked in him all manner of concupiscence or sinful lusts. It used the coming of the Commandment as an occasion to assert it's control over his life not letting him obey the law. Sin was not active before the law came for it had no reason to assert it's power until then. But as soon as the Commandment came forbidding such things, sin came to life and by it's lusts made him break the law so that he would have to pay the death penalty ¹ (Romans 7:8-9).

1. After all of this discussion, what does Paul still call the law and the Commandment? (Romans 7:12) _____

TWO NATURES STRUGGLE (Romans 7:13-25)

In Romans 7:13b, Paul asks----But how can that be? Didn't the law cause my doom? How then can

1. Dake Bible, note w, p. 165.

it be good?----It uses God's good laws for it's own evil purposes.

1. In Romans 7:14,

(a) What does Paul call the law? _____

(b) What does Paul say about himself? _____

Paul then, in Romans 7:15-20 said, "I don't even understand myself. I really want to do what is right, but I can't. I end up doing what I don't want to do ---- what I hate. My conscience tells me I'm doing wrong, but I can't help myself. It is sin inside me that is stronger than I am that makes me do those evil things." (This was Paul's state before Salvation.)

2. How does Romans 7:19 relate to you in your life before you found Christ? _____

Paul was not a willing servant to sin. He says he delights in the law of God after his inward man. He loves to do God's will (Romans 7:22; Ephesians 3:16; Colossians 3:9,10).

In Romans 7:24,25, Paul says, *O wretched man that I am!----O what a terrible predicament I'm in!---Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?----Who will make me free from this bondage to this*