

Epistle to the Romans, 7:1-25

I. We belong to a new Master (7:1-6)

- Death frees from legal bondage (1-3).
- We belong to Christ who died and was raised (4)
- Law aroused sinful passions leading to death (5).
- We are freed from law and enslaved to the Spirit (6).

Romans 7:1

- Know: Jews and proselytes know this.
- Law: The Tanakh, Torah.
- Binding: Lit., 'lords it over'.

Romans 7:1

- Married: Hupandros, 'under-a-man'.
- Bound: Few legal grounds for divorce.

Romans 7:3

- Belong: Dative case 'with'.
- If: Ean + subjunctive = hypothetical.
- Free: Law no longer applies.

Romans 7:4

- Die to: Dative case → 'regarding'.
- Body: Metaphor of physical death.
- Fruit: Metaphor of life-giving deeds.

Romans 7:5

- Flesh: Before our new birth.
- Passions: Mental, physical, social.
- Bear fruit: Metaphor = earn reward
- For death: Dative case, no preposition.

Romans 7:6

- Discharged: Aorist = past & present
- Dead: 'having died'
- Enslaved: Not freed to run wild.
- Newness: Spirit versus law code.

II. Law shows to us our sins (7:7-12)

- Law reveals sin, defiling conscience (7-8).
- Law revives sin, leading to death (9-11).
- Law remains holy, just and good (12).
- Law causes sin to become more sinful (13-14).

Romans 7:7

- Know: Better to know than to die.
- Law: From the Ten Commandments.
- Covet: To desire what is forbidden.

Romans 7:8

- Opportunity: Was always potential.
- Sin: My own perverse desires.
- Produce: Aorist = past & present.
- Law: Law → commandments.
- Dead: Unable to give life.

Romans 7:9-10

- Alive: Born spiritually alive.
- Once: Before born again.
- Came: Learned God's laws.
- Promised: Leviticus 18:5.

Romans 7:11-12

- Opportunity: Compare verse 8.
- Deceive: 'The devil made me do it.'
- Killed: All die spiritually.
- Good: Learn God's laws!

Romans 7:13

- Shown: How else could we know?
- Sinful: Both in fact and in effect.

III. The Lord Jesus rescues us (7:13-25)

- Law is good, but we are slaves to sin (14-16).
- We recognize good, but we are unable to do it (17-20).
- We need a strong Savior (21-24).
- Thanks be to God through our Lord Jesus Christ (25).

Romans 7: 14-16

- My natural self aside from Christ.
- All verbs = present tense reality.

Romans 7:17-18

- Dwells: All verbs = present tense reality.
- Flesh: Natural self, apart from Christ.
- Ability: Lit., 'to do', present tense.

Romans 7:19-20

- Do¹⁹: *Poièô*, most general sense.
- Evil: *Kakon*, most general sense.
- Want: *Thelô*, most general sense.
- Do²⁰: *Prassô*, practice habitually.
- Dwell: Present tense, continual.

Romans 7:21-23

- Law of God: Written legal code.
- Law of sin: Innate, natural impulses.