

**Series "How Great A Salvation"**  
**"The War Within"**  
**Romans 7:14-25**  
**Study-20**

**"Romans 7 Is Paul's autobiography, which is the biography of every man."**

**Romans 7:7-13 – (Past-tense)** Sin assaulted Paul by stealth and struck him down – **Romans 7:11**

**Romans 7:14-25 – (Present-tense)** Paul puts up a great fight but is unable to beat down the enemy completely – **Romans 7:24**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "The Believer's At War With The Mind That Serves The Law Of God And The Flesh Serving The Law Of Sin."

- 1. Verses 14-17 – Doing What's Disapproved**
- 2. Verses 18-20 – Not Doing What's Approved**
- 3. Verses 21-25 – My Experience Drove Me To God**

**1. Verses 14-17 – Doing What's Disapproved:**

Romans 7:14 – "For we know that the Law is spiritual;" – "knowledge or conviction of the soul."

"spiritual;" – "spirit-controlled;" the Law deals with the inner man, the spiritual part of man, as well as with the outer actions.

Context: Romans 7:12-13 – Law Reveals Sin's Sinfulness: The Law Is Exonerated, It's Sin's Fault! Law Reveals Sin: Law Provokes Sin, Law Condemns Sin, Law Reveals Sin's Sinfulness.

The Law Cannot Be Responsible For Our Holiness.

Romans 8:3-5

"but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin." – Who is Paul describing here?  
3 Views:

- #1. Non-Christian
- #2. A Normal Christian
- #3. A Carnal Christian

I believe that it describes #2. A Normal Christian: A non-Christian or a carnal Christian does not rejoice in the Law. Romans 7:22 – Paul’s autobiography; speaks about how he loves the Law, wanting to please God; In the present tense; It is not far past but the present reality.

“Paul’s autobiography, which is the biography of every man.”

Verses 14-17 – The Struggling Christian: Romans 7:14 – “I am of flesh,” – “fleshly, weak, sinful creature of flesh, that which is transitory.” Our nature is fleshly, but the Law’s nature is spiritual.

“sold into bondage to sin.” – “sold under sin, is subjected to a power that is alien to his own will, sinful nature that has been exposed through the spiritual law.

Romans 7:15 – “but I am doing the very thing I hate.” – This reveals a converted heart that wants to be kept from sin.

Romans 7:16 – “confessing that the Law is good.” – Agree that the Law is right, I am a sinner. I am a violator of God’s commandments. Sinners don’t agree with the Law; Yes, I am a bad sinner, law breaker!

Romans 7:17 – “So now, no longer am I the one doing it,” – The “I” speaks of the redeemed spirit.

“but sin which dwells in me.” – “the indwelling in me sin;” It is the sin nature that resides within us.

John 15:5; Galatians 5:16

## **2. Verses 18-20 – Not Doing What’s Approved:**

Romans 7:18 – “For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh;” – Unredeemed Humanness.

“for the willing (Wishing) is present in me,” – the flesh or the law is not capable of producing a change or the power to be perfect.

“but the doing of the good is not.” – Paul was incapable of completely fulfilling the requirement of God’s holy Law, Philippians 3:12-14.

Romans 7:19 – Verses 19-20 is a repeat of Verses 15, 17.

Romans 7:20 – “I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.” – Sin is the culprit. It is sneaky, deceptive; we think we are in control and it beats us!

### **3. Verses 21-25 – My Experience Drove Me To God:**

Romans 7:21 – “I find then the principle that evil is present in me,” – “is present” – “lies beside.” No matter what Paul did, his deeds were tainted by sin.

“the one who wants to do good.” – The believer who tries to live under Law will only activate the old nature; he will not eradicate it.

The problem in Romans 6 was, “How can I stop doing bad things?” While the problem in Romans 7 is, “How can I ever do anything good?”

Romans 7:22

I Delight In The Law: “For I joyfully” – “I delight in, I have a sympathetic pleasure in, I consent gladly, I am in approval from the bottom of my heart.” “concur with the law of God” – Psalm 119:70-72.

The Law Of God: “with the law of God in the inner man,” – This Law that was given at Sinai which is holy, just, good, points heavenward.

Romans 7:23 – “but I see a different law in the members of my body,” – Paul agrees with the law that he finds in his life, this active resistance to God and His will.

“waging war against the law of my mind” – Galatians 5:17.

The Law Of Sin: “and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.” – Man is weak, Matthew 26:41.

The law of God points heavenward, the law of sin points hell-ward.

Romans 7:24 – “Wretched man that I am!” – Not “was,” “I Am!” “Wretched” – “distress, affliction or suffering” – “man that I am!” – Greek word indicates a person who is exhausted after a battle.

Blessed Spiritual Bankruptcy: Matthew 5:3

“Who will” – Not “What must I do?” There is nothing humanly speaking that we can do! Romans 8:23

“set me free from the body of this death?” – Romans 6:6; Romans 7:23.

“the body of this death?” – the physical body is called this because it is destined to eventually succumb to death.

Romans 7:25 – “Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!” – Paul does not give a detailed answer but says our hope and answer is to be found in Jesus Christ our Lord! “Jesus Is The Answer!”

“So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God,” – we serve God with the inward man! John 16:33

“but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.” – There is going to be a constant battle of the old nature that we will keep under His control by the Holy Spirit.

Philippians 1:6

### **Application:**

1. Every Believer Is At War With The Mind That Serves The Law Of God And The Flesh Serving The Law Of Sin. Our Nature Is Fleshly; But The Law's Nature Is Spiritual.
2. It Is Right To Look To The Law For Moral Guidance, But Wrong To Look To The Law For Saving Power. The Old Nature Knows No Law, The New Nature Needs No Law.
3. The Law Of God Points Heavenward, The Law Of Sin Points Hell-Ward. The Christian Cannot Avoid Living In The Flesh. He Can And Should Avoid Walking According To The Flesh, In Its Sinful Ways.
4. “Thanks Be To God Through Jesus Christ Our Lord!” – “Jesus Is The Answer!” The War Is Not Over, The Battle Will Continue, But With The Certainty Of Victory Instead Of Certainty Of Defeat.