



## THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS “What About the Law?” Romans 7:1-25

No. 288

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Paul’s statement, “You are not under law but under grace,” while wonderfully true, is often woefully misunderstood and misapplied. This section examines the believer’s relationship to the law.

### I. The Believer’s Release from the Law. vv. 1-6

- A. An illustration. vv. 1-3
  - 1. The law of marriage.
  - 2. The release from law.
- B. An application. vv. 4-6
  - 1. Mr. Law is holy (v. 12), good (v. 13), spiritual (v. 14), demanding (Galatians 3:10).
  - 2. Mrs. Law is frustrated, humiliated. v. 5
  - 3. Mr. Law dies (analogy convoluted!).
  - 4. Mrs. Law is free to remarry.
  - 5. Mrs. Law becomes Mrs. Risen-From-Dead.

### II. The Believer’s Respect for the Law. v. 7

- A. Law cannot reproduce righteousness.
- B. Law can expose sin.
- C. Law does reveal inner realities.

### III. The Believer’s Revelation Through the Law. vv. 8-13

- A. The Law stands for holiness, justice and goodness.
- B. This is life.
- C. “This do and you shall live” —Principle of operation.
- D. Not doing brings death—unholy, unjust, not good.
- E. Sin has been unmasked.

### IV. The Believer’s Relationship to the Law. vv. 14-25

- A. Awareness of condition. vv. 14, 18
  - 1. Carnal, sin-enslaved in contrast to Law. v. 14
  - 2. Carnality incapable of spirituality. v. 18
- B. Acknowledgment of conflict. vv. 15, 18-19
  - 1. Puzzlement and disappointment. v. 15
  - 2. Ambivalence and contradiction. vv. 18-19
- C. Arrival at conclusion. vv. 17, 20-25
  - 1. Since I have a sensitivity to holiness...
  - 2. ...And a proclivity to ungodliness...
  - 3. ...I am a battleground.
    - a. I am wretched.
    - b. I am in need of help.
    - c. I know where to find it.
    - d. I am aware the conflict will persist.
    - e. I know through the Spirit there is triumph.

### Application:

- 1.) Legalists need to recognize law reveals sin and leads to Christ.
- 2.) Antinomians need to acknowledge law is good, man is sinful.
- 3.) Believers need to remember the conflict continues but the Spirit enables.