

Week 4: Romans 7-9

1:1 - 1:17			1:18 - 3:20		3:21 - 4:25		5:1 - 8:39		9:1 - 11:36		12:1 - 15:13		15:14 - 16:27	
Intro			All have sinned - Prosecution - Divine 'no'		Justification by faith- Defence - Divine 'yes'		Sanctification - New life in Christ		God's plan for Jews and Gentiles		Imperative - Christian relationships		Conclusion	

- ◆ 7 - The law of sin and death
- ◆ 8 - The law of the Spirit of Christ
- ◆ 9 - God's plan for Jews and Gentiles

7 - Law of sin and death

- 7:1-7:6: Like a woman who is free to remarry after her tyrant husband has died, we are no longer subject to the unachievable demands and endless reproach of the law.



7 - Law of sin and death

- 7:7-7:13: The law was good and holy, but it could not save us. It defined sin, provoked sin and ultimately condemned us.

- What was the 'law'?
 - ◆ Torah
 - ◆ Moral as well as regulatory laws
 - ◆ Rabbinic traditions
 - ◆ Christian legalism

7 - Law of sin and death

- Role of the law
 - ◆ Reveals (defines) sin - 3:20, 7:7
 - ◆ Provokes sin - 5:20, 7:5, 7:8
 - ◆ Brings wrath - 4:15, 7:10, 7:13
 - ◆ Holy, righteous, good- 7:7, 7:12
 - ◆ Divine origin - 'spiritual' - 7:14
 - ◆ Provisional, not eternal - 7:1-4
 - ◆ Intent fulfilled in believers by indwelling Spirit - 8:4

7 - Law of sin and death

- 7:14-7:25: The law was not the problem. Our sinful human nature was. Even if we wanted to obey the law, our sinful nature prevented us from doing so and predisposed us to sin and death.
- Who is 'struggling with sin' (7:7-25)?
 - ◆ Unconverted person?
 - ◆ Almost converted person?
 - ◆ Unspiritual Christian?
 - ◆ Fully saved Christian?

8 - Law of the Spirit

- 8:1-8:4: Through Jesus Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit has freed us from the power of sin, death and condemnation.
- 8:5-8:30: The Spirit lives in us, renewing our minds, bringing life and peace, confirming that we are God's children, helping us in distress and prayer, and ultimately raising our bodies from the dead.
- 8:31-8:38: If this God is for us, who can be against us? God has given us Christ, and so will give us everything else we need. Nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ.

8 - Law of the Spirit

- God is for us. Who can be against us?
- God gave his only son. Will we not get it all?
- God has chosen us. Who will charge us?
- God has justified us. Who will condemn us?
- Jesus died, rose and ascended. Who will separate us from his love?

9 - God's plan for Jews and Gentiles

◆ Introduction

- Important theme of Romans
- Fits in logical flow of argument
- No anti-semitism allowed!
- Paul's view of Judaism

9 - God's plan for Jews and Gentiles

- 9:1-9:18: I am distressed that so few Jewish people have believed in Jesus. There is so much benefit to being Jewish, but being truly Jewish never just meant physical ancestry but having God's promise and election.
- 9:19-33: God can and does have mercy on anyone he chooses. He has mercy on Jewish people who don't rely on their works of the law but have faith in Christ, as well as Gentiles who have faith even though they never knew the law or sought God before.