

Romans: The Christian and Moses

(Romans 7)

Introduction:

1. Paul Begins chapters 1-4, hitting home the point: You all have sinned and need Jesus.
2. Chapters 5-6 transition into Paul's next argument: Christ Died For you; now you need to die for him.
3. Some questions to ask:
 1. How should we interact with the Law?
 2. Was it a benefit to have been under the law?

I. Free From the Law

- A. (Romans 7:1-6)
- B. Baptism, as spiritual death, releases you from the Law.
 1. Death is a release.
 - a) Consider marriage vows.
 - (1) (Matthew 19:3-9)
 - (2) (1 Corinthians 5:11)
 2. Death to sin occurs in Baptism
 - a) (Romans 6:1-5)
- C. Baptism, as the beginning of spiritual life, brings you under the Spirit.
 1. A new life has begun. A life that is bound to Christ and not sin. (Chapter 6)
 2. The Law of Christ is a law of liberty.
 - a) (James 1:15, 2:12)
 3. The Law of Christ is also a law of Duty.
 - a) (Romans 7:6)
 - b) The new convenience of Christ is not devoid of responsibility. Far From it!
 - (1) We must abstain from sin and practice righteousness.
 - (2) (Matthew 7:21-23)
 - D. Imagine the difficulty of this transition:
 1. Loss of identity
 2. Jealousy akin to sibling rivalries
 3. Rethinking fundamental life decisions. (Kosher, Cleanliness, etc.)

II. Sinful Flesh, Godly Soul

- A. (Romans 7:7-25)
- B. Paul's Struggle with the Law:
 1. What is the relationship between the Law and sin?
 - a) Is the law itself sin?
 - (1) (Romans 5:20)
 - b) It is NOT that sin only came into existence through the law
 - (1) (Romans 2:12)
 - c) The law allows one to *recognize* sin
 - d) The fault for sin does not lie with the commandments but with its misuse.

- (1) (Romans 6:10)
 - (a) Commanded to be holy — sin introduced temptations to act unholy.
 - (b) Ill. “Don’t touch your sister” becomes “I’m not touching you” becomes “uh-oh, I touched you.”
 - 2. He had the desire to do right, but his flesh often conquered his will.
 - a) Christians are not immune from sin.
 - (1) (1 John 1:5-2:2)
 - b) What is the difference between one who falls “in Grace” and one who falls “from grace”?
 - (1) It cannot be a particular sin. (I.e. adultery, murder, lies, etc.)
 - (2) It is the heart of the one sinning.
 - (a) The Apostate is not:
 - i) Trying to live righteously
 - ii) Working towards repentance
 - iii) Seeking forgiveness
- C. Paul Righteous apart from the Law?
- 1. (Romans 7:9)
 - 2. There was a time when the law was not applicable to Paul, and he stood justified in that time because he did not have sin.

III. Questions:

- A. How should we, as Christians, handle & interact with the law?
 - 1. A wealth of knowledge and faith
 - 2. Allows us to understand the NT
 - a) Leviticus and Hebrews, Ezekiel/Daniel, and Revelation.
- B. Was it a benefit to have lived under the law?

Conclusion:

- 1. Point One