

- c. Conversely, the result of presenting yourself to God, based on your position in Christ of being dead to sin and alive to God, is enjoyment of both eternal and _____ life. Are you living this amazing eternal life today? John 17:3, 1 John 1:3b-4

VIII. Romans 7:1-25 – The Doctrine of Sanctification - Your New Relationship to the Law

A. Defining terms

1. **Death** – When you see the word _____ in Scripture, you must determine its meaning.
 - a. The _____ term for death does not mean cessation of existence or annihilation.
 - b. The concept of death in the Bible normally conveys a _____ of separation.
 - 1) **Physical death** is the separation of the spirit and soul from the _____ (Gen. 5:5). The Bible teaches that even after physical death, the soul and spirit continue to live. Luke 16:22-23, 23:43; Philippians 1:21-26
 - 2) **Spiritual death** is the separation of body, soul and spirit from _____, the Source and Giver of life.
 - a) All people are born in this condition of spiritual _____. Genesis 2:17; John 3:3-5; Ephesians 2:1, 5
 - b) In order to be made _____ to God, people need to be born again into God's family. Ephesians 2:5-6, Colossians 2:13
 - 3) **Eternal death**, also called the _____ death, is separation from God for eternity in the Lake of Fire. Revelation 20:11-15
 - 4) **Fellowship death** is a _____ in communication with God or other believers. This is also called temporal death. 1 Timothy 5:6, Revelation 3:1
 - a) This is a temporary condition that does not nullify one's legal status of acceptance before God, but it does _____ one's fellowship with God.
 - b) Carnality, legalism and worldliness all _____ believers to this spiritual malady.
2. **Law** – When you see the word _____ in the Bible, you must determine its meaning.
 - a. Law can refer to the _____ or societal laws that govern all human societies. Romans 7:2; Daniel 6:8, 15
 - b. Law can mean a principle found in nature or in _____. The law of gravity is an example of a natural law. Romans 8:2
 - c. Law can refer to the Old Testament scriptures in general, it can also refer to the more than 600 Old Testament laws, or even more specifically it can refer to the _____ Commandments. Luke 16:16-17

B. Romans 7:1-6 – Married to Christ

1. Romans 7:1 – *Or do you not know, brethren (for I am speaking to those who know the law), that the law has jurisdiction over a person as long as he lives?* In this section, Paul used an example from societal law to teach an important spiritual _____ concerning a believer's freedom from legalism.
 - a. Every society on earth understands that when an individual dies, society's laws _____ to have authority over that person. For example, dead people are not summoned, put on trial or imprisoned.
 - b. Using a specific law, the law of marriage, Paul compared the way death affects a person's relationship to the societal law of marriage with the way death affects a believer's relationship to _____ and the Law of Moses.
2. Romans 7:2-3 – Paul used the societal laws that govern marriage to explain our _____ relationship with legalism and the Old Testament Law now that we are in Christ.
 - a. Romans 7:2a – *For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living...* Basically, in all the world, according to the societal laws of marriage, a married woman is legally tied to her husband as long as he is _____.
 - b. Romans 7:2b – *but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband.* But if the woman's husband _____, she is immediately freed from the law of marriage.
 - c. Romans 7:3a – *So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress...* According to the law of marriage, if a married woman lives with another man while her husband is still _____, she is considered guilty of adultery.
 - d. Romans 7:3b – *...but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress, though she is joined to another man.* But if her husband dies, she is set _____ from the law of marriage and can legally marry another man.
3. Romans 7:4 – Understanding this teaching can _____ you from a life of legalism. It can release you from the futile frustration of trying to keep the Ten Commandments or attempting to follow other lists of do's and don'ts.
 - a. Romans 7:4a – *Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ...* Like the married woman who is freed from the law of marriage by her husband's death, you are set free from the Old Testament Law by your _____ together with Christ. Galatians 2:19-20
 - 1) Every believer has *died to the Law* (Gal. 2:19). This means that because of your co-crucifixion with Christ, you are no longer under the jurisdiction of the _____ of Moses, including the Ten Commandments as well as all the other laws given to the nation of Israel. Romans 6:14, 7:6; Galatians 3:24-35, 5:18
 - 2) Since the Law no longer has any authority over you, you do not have to live under the _____ weight of its obligations. Acts 15:10, Galatians 5:1

- 3) You no longer have to try to _____ God's acceptance through obeying the Law. As a believer in Christ, you are already fully accepted as His child. Colossians 2:13-14
- 4) Why was it necessary for you to _____ to the Law?
 - b. Romans 7:4b – *So that you might be joined to _____, to Him who was raised from the dead.* When you died with Christ, the Law lost its authority over you and you were freed to *be joined to another*. You are now joined to Jesus Christ, who is not a cruel taskmaster like the Law but a gracious helper.
 - c. Romans 7:4c – *...in order that we might bear fruit for God...* As long as you were under the Law and its resultant legalism, you were unable to please God. However, now that you are united with Christ, He graciously produces _____ for God through you. Romans 8:3, Galatians 2:19-20, Philippians 1:11
4. Romans 7:5 – When you were still an unbeliever, in the _____ and married to the Law, life was nearly unbearable.
 - a. Romans 7:5a – *For while we were in the flesh, the sinful passions, which were aroused by the Law were at work...* When you were still an unbeliever, the Law triggered your sinful desires so that you wanted to do the very things the Law said _____ to do.
 - b. Romans 7:5b – *...the sinful passions...were at work in the members of our body...* Your sinful _____ aroused by the sin nature expressed themselves in multiple sinful activities through the various parts of your human body.
 - c. Romans 7:5c – *...to bear fruit for death.* Your sinful passions brought about _____ for you.
 - 1) This is not talking about immediate physical death but about a breach in fellowship with _____ and others. 1 John 1:5-6
 - 2) The _____ of your body being run by its sinful passions was brokenness, heartache and destruction. Galatians 6:8, James 1:14-15
5. Romans 7:6 – What should your life _____ like now that you are married to Christ?
 - a. Romans 7:6a – *But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound...* When you died with Christ at the moment of salvation, you were set free from slavery to the Law and its resultant _____. Colossians 2:20-23, Galatians 4:8-11, Ephesians 2:1-3
 - 1) When you feel like you have to keep _____ to serve the Lord, life becomes a heavy burden. This miserable existence should serve as a wakeup call to alert us to the fact that something is wrong. 2 Corinthians 3:4-8
 - 2) Some Christians burn out trying to please God through their _____ efforts. We need God's power to do God's work.

- b. Romans 7:6b – *...so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.* This phrase *oldness of the letter* refers to the Law of Moses. Now that you are under _____ not Law, and now that Christ is living through you, life can truly be joyous and worth living. 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 John 1:4

C. Romans 7:7-13 – Life under Law

1. Romans 7:7 – Paul showed who the real _____ was for his sin, and it was not the Law.
 - a. *What shall we say then? Is the Law sin?* Essentially, the question Paul put forth was this: “Is the Law somehow to _____ for my sinful actions?”
 - b. *May it never be!* Paul’s answer was, “Perish the thought!” The Law is not sinful. The Law is _____, because its author is perfect.
 - c. *On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law...* The Law, in effect, did its _____; it clearly defined sin to Paul. It was an excellent teacher. Galatians 3:19, Romans 3:19
 - d. *...for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, “YOU SHALL NOT COVET.”* Apart from the Law, Paul would not have known it was wrong to _____. Romans 3:19-20
2. Romans 7:8-9 – Paul revealed that the culprit was the sin _____, not the Law.
 - a. Romans 7:8a – *But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind...* It was the sin nature that was to blame; the sin nature _____ God’s good Law to tempt Paul to sin.
 - b. Romans 7:8b – *...for apart from the Law sin is dead.* The sin nature is fueled by the Law. Without the Law to _____, the sin nature lies dormant.
 - c. Romans 7:9a – *I was once _____ apart from the Law...* Before he understood the Law, Paul lived a carefree life in regards to any responsibility for sin. Romans 3:20
 - d. Romans 7:9b – *...but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died.* Once Paul heard and understood the Law, His sin nature sparked to life, causing him to experience _____. Romans 6:23
3. Romans 7:10-11 – Paul recounted his frustration under the _____.
 - a. Romans 7:10 – *...and this commandment, which was to result in life, proved to result in death for me...* The Law that Paul thought would help him _____ a good life turned out to bring him death.
 - b. Romans 7:11 – *...for sin, taking an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me.* Paul’s sin nature used the good Law of God as an opportunity to destroy him. The sin nature tricked him by _____ him to break God’s laws, causing him to experience death.

4. Romans 7:12-13 – Paul’s _____ statements on the Law and the sin nature
 - a. Romans 7:12 – *So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.* As in verse 7, Paul _____ acknowledged the perfection of the Law.
 - b. Romans 7:13a – *Therefore did that which is good become a cause of death for me? May it never be!* So, did the good Law of God cause Paul’s death? _____. Perish the thought! He would never blame the perfect Law of God for his sin. It was his sin nature that took advantage of the Law and triggered his death.
 - c. Romans 7:13b – *Rather it was sin [the sin nature], in order that it might be shown to be sin [or sinful, no definite article here] by effecting my death through that which is good...* It was Paul’s sin nature that caused his death by _____ taking advantage of God’s good Law and causing him to sin.
 - 1) The sin nature is so desperately _____ it has the audacity to take advantage of the good and perfect Law of God to make a person sin and cause his or her death.
 - 2) This insight concerning the sin nature does not mean you are not personally responsible for your sinful actions, but it does _____ you recognize the source of sin in your life.
 - d. Romans 7:13c – *...so that through the commandment sin would become utterly sinful.* How does God _____ your sin nature’s abuse of the Law and your failure for your good?
 - 1) God uses this new understanding of the true state of your sin nature’s _____ essence to encourage you to count on the truths of Romans 6:11. By faith, you should reckon yourself to be dead to the sin nature and alive to God in Christ.
 - 2) This understanding should energize you to _____ the parts of your body as instruments of righteousness to God as Romans 6 teaches. John 15:5, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

D. Romans 7:14-23 – A frustrated life

1. Romans 7:14 – Paul identified the _____ of the sin problem in his life.
 - a. Romans 7:14a – *For we know that the Law is spiritual.* Since the Law comes from _____, it is totally good and perfect. It is spiritual, not fleshly.
 - b. Romans 7:14b – *...but I am of flesh (SARKINOS)...* This phrase is translatable, “I am fleshly, or _____.” Paul was going to use himself as an example of what a believer experiences when walking according to the flesh. He knew this frustration from personal experience, just as we do, if we are honest.
 - 1) When he said, “*...but I am of flesh,*” Paul was not confessing that he was walking according to the _____ as he wrote.
 - 2) Also, Paul was not writing about his _____ life as an unsaved person. Otherwise, he would have used a description of the unsaved, similar to the one he used in Romans 7:5 - *while we were in the flesh.*