

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GRACE.
THE FOUNDATION OF NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.

Romans 7:7-12

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Sunday, December 11, 2022

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Just When You Thought It Was Over” – Part 2

The Gospel of Grace. The Foundation of New Testament Theology
According to the Gift of Grace Through Faith in Jesus Christ Alone.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Grace, Faith, Works, Paul, Law, The Spiritual vs. The Carnal, Wrath, Glory

Romans 7:7-12

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, “You shall not covet.” 8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law sin was dead. 9 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. 10 And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death. 11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me. 12 Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.

Just When You Thought It Was Over

1.) Truth shakes you at the core

vs. 7

1a.) Truth is factual

vs. 7a

Verse 7a

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary,

1b.) Truth is surgical

vs. 7b

Verse 7b

I would not have known sin except through the law.

The Truth Shakes You At The Core

Just When You Thought It Was Over

1c.) Truth is revealing

vs. 7c

Verse 7c

For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."

This is a Remarkable Moment for us.

The apostle Paul allows us to take a look at the inside of who he was before meeting Jesus Christ. **And Yet – Who is.**

Romans 7:7

I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."

Covetousness

grk: epithumeo

a deep desire, a lusting after someone and or something that someone else has.

Philippians 3:4-6

Though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; 6 concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

The Truth (OF GOD) Shook Him At His Core

Could this be what is wrong with you right now?

Could it be that you're feeling frustrated and defeated no matter what your achievements have been to date?

This we know for sure. At some moment in time – Paul was reading again or thinking again about the 10 commandments and suddenly, He was

Exodus 20:17

"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

The 1st. and the 10th. Commandments are like massive pillars of truth that seem to stand like sentinels among the others.

But wait a minute - **why am I now troubled by wanting what I am now told I cannot have?**
Well Now I Really Want It More Than Ever.

Galatians 3:21-25

Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. 22 But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. 23 But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. 24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

Tutor / Schoolmaster grk: paidagōgós
a trainer of boys, an assigned tutor, a developer of boys to men in the area of the disciplines.

Just When You Thought It Was Over

2.) Reality strikes you at the heart vs. 8-10

2a.) Reality awakens you to yourself vs. 8

Verse 8

8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law sin was dead.

Where there is no law there is no knowledge of sin and so I'm thinking' I'm ok, you're ok – heck we are all just wonderful “JUST” people, Just the way you are.

Galatians 3:10-12

For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.” 11 But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for “the just shall live by faith.” 12 Yet the law is not of faith, but “the man who does them shall live by them.”

Romans 7:8-10

8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law sin was dead. 9 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. 10 And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death.

We Have An Enemy – You and I do!

That enemy is sin or more exact, a sin nature. That is, that within every single one of us is a longing to do what pleases ourselves most.

Reality Strikes You At The Heart

Just When You Thought It Was Over

2b.) Reality illuminates you to your condition

vs. 9

9 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.

No Pastor would want to admit what I'm about to say, but unless you understand the purpose and the function of the law of God there is no possible way for you to understand the purpose and function of salvation, the cross of Jesus Christ and the empty tomb. There's no possible way for you to be saved by having your sins forgiven unless you understand the law. It is a pastor's job to make sure that the congregation under his teaching knows that without faith in Jesus Christ it is impossible to enter the kingdom of heaven

Verse 9

"I was alive once without the law." But when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.

"I Once was Living Life Loud & Large"

Galatians 5:16-21

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

An Illustration is in Order

In the not too distant past people died of cancer because it could not be detected until it was too late. But now, having your body scanned by an MRI machine – doctors can detect cancer long before you have any symptoms.

Think of God’s law being like an MRI machine.

It shows you things about yourself that to you are yet undetected, but to God you’re a walking dead man.

The Law is a diagnostic tool that exposes the disease of sin.

No one gets angry at the MRI machine for telling them something is very wrong. The MRI did what it was designed to do – make known what was not previously known.

You should ask “why?” why would God require of them that which they could not perform? To prove to them, to us just how impossible it is to (heal or to improve or reform yourself.)

Romans 8:3-5

For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

Revived

grk: anazao

to live again, to come back to life, to come back to haunt or to come back to curse. (to curse me personally)

Reality Strikes You At The Heart

Just When You Thought It Was Over

2c.) Reality exposes you to the real you

vs. 10

Verse 10

10 And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death.

I'm Sorry But - Here is a Gruesome but Accurate Illustration.
Think of pulling back **the sheet that is coving a dead**
body to confirm his or her identity.

A Personal Observation.

Notice with me that in this section of scripture there is
no reference of God. There is no reference to God.

Rather - there is a deafening silence from God.

(all of this is by design)

Just When You Thought It Was Over

3.) Death stands waiting at your door

vs. 11-12

Death Stands Waiting At Your Door

Just When You Thought It Was Over

3a.) Death knocks using your sin

vs. 11

Verse 11

11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me.

Isaiah 59:12

For our transgressions are multiplied before You, and our sins testify against us; for our
transgressions are with us, and as for our iniquities, we know them:

Verse 11

11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me.

Taking grk: lambano
to catch you or to grab you in the act.

Occasion grk: aphorme
a starting point, a place to begin from.
(think of Teen rebellion)

Deceived grk: exapatao
to seduce completely, to deceive with the goal of
absolute de-construction.

The danger & deception of sin is that it's Multi-layered.

This is why the Real Christian Experience is so dynamic & transformational.

Death Stands Waiting At Your Door

Just When You Thought It Was Over

3b.) Death knows you're not perfect

vs. 12a

Verse 12a

12 Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.

I agree with the Law. I therefore, do hereby –
Indict myself as a runner, a rebel against the Law of God.

Death Stands Waiting At Your Door

Just When You Thought It Was Over

3c.) Death nails you to the grave

vs. 12b

Verse 12b

12b and the commandment holy and just and good.

**Just When You Thought It Was Over,
It's Gotten A Lot Worse - For A Very Good Reason.**

“We must remember Christian that our eternal life does not begin at the moment of our death, but rather it begins at the moment of our conversion. In that moment of being Born Again we are Made Alive in Christ in such a way that we will never experience death.”

F.F. Bruce

Total Code for the Christian...

John 14:1-3,6,18.

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also... 6 And Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me... 18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

John 14:19

“A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also.

John 6:37

All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

End of Study

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