

“through (in) Christ Jesus”

*the law of
the Spirit of life*

*set me
free from*

*the law of
sin and death*

One “law” can overcome another.

God’s “law of the Spirit of life” is the source of power God gives believers to overcome sin—and live the kind of life Jesus died to give us.

Paul’s outburst of *“Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!”* reminds us:

1. The victory is God’s victory!
2. God gives us His victory—through Jesus!

These great realities of Christ’s victory over the penalty and power of sin demand response: rejoice or repent!

cedar mill bible church



romans

THE GOSPEL OF GOD

Rescued—And Free

Romans 7:21-8:2

If we are not “under law” and if we are “free from law” then:

What is the purpose of the law? What does it do... and not do?

1. The law shows us the reality and extent of sin. (7)
2. The law provokes sin. (8)
3. The law results in spiritual death. (9-10)
4. The law reveals that sin deceives and puts to death. (11)
5. The law shows the ways God wants people to live. (12)
6. The law exposes sin for what it is—showing sin to be the true cause of separation from God (“death”). (13)

The law is spiritual—but I am unspiritual (“fleshly”). (14)

In my “flesh”—I live a life of struggle against sin. (15-16)

Sin lives in me—and I have no power (in my flesh) capable of overcoming it. (17-18)

In my flesh, I cannot do the good I want to do, and I cannot keep from doing the evil I do not want to do. (18-19)

The problem: There is a powerful presence of sin in me. (20-21)

²¹ So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me.

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Carl Palmer, Pastor-Teacher

Two opposing “laws” (forces, principles) work in us.

²² *For in my inner being I delight in God’s law;* ²³ *but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members.*

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In my inner being
I delight in God’s law

evil is right there with me.
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This = why Romans 6 taught us:

we had “*a body of sin*”
we were “*slaves to sin*”

And God has worked to “*unite*” us together with Christ
in His death and resurrection

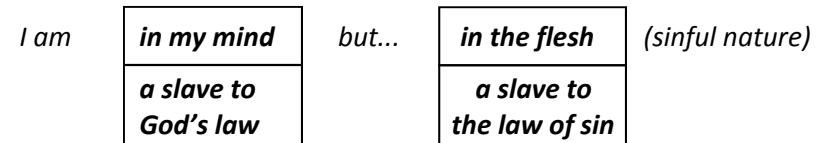
So that we | participate in His victory over sin
| die to the “sin-master”
| have new life—with a new “Master”

“for sin shall not be your master” (6:14)

²⁴ *What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?*

²⁵ *Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!*

So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God’s law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.



¹ *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,*

² *because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.*

The solution to condemnation because of sin (Romans 3) and the struggle against the power of sin (Romans 7) is to be “in Christ Jesus.”