

Romans - Part 12  
A New Way - Romans 7  
01/16/2022

- Jesus actually expects his followers to be engaged in the endless process of what it actually means to live the scriptures
- The Way
- Bind
- Loose

*Romans 7:4-6 (ESV) Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.*

1st) The New Way is **POSITIONAL**.

*Romans 7:4 (ESV) Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead,*

- Before salvation we were dead IN sin but after salvation we are dead TO sin
- Positional truth is my position with God by virtue of the new birth which I have experienced
- What happened?
- What to do
- Who we already are
- I wish I felt closer to God
- I wish I was more dependent on God and not myself
- I wish I didn't want to sin so much
- What I'm not doing rather than what's already been done
- It puts you in the place of trying rather than trusting
- Very rarely do we hear about the idea of being satisfied with what we already have in Christ
- We need rest for our weary souls
- Encourage someone in the Lord
  
- When Christ died he took that entire rule-dominated way of life down with him and left it in the tomb, leaving you free to "marry" a resurrection life and bear "offspring" of faith for God.

2nd) The New Way is **TRANSITIONAL**.

*Romans 7:4b-5 (ESV) in order that we may bear fruit for God. For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death.*

- An old way of life
- To a new way of life

### Three Uses of the Law (Rules)

A) It is a mirror that **REVEALS** our sinful state.

*Romans 7:7 (MSG) The law code had a perfectly legitimate function. Without its clear guidelines for right and wrong, moral behavior would be mostly guesswork.*

- It defines right and wrong

B) It **INFLAMES** sin.

*Romans 5:20 (MSG) All that passing laws against sin did was produce more lawbreakers.*

*1 Cor. 15:56b (NLT) and the law gives sin its power*

- Prohibition increases desire

C) It **POINTS** us to Jesus.

- It reveals our need for a Savior

*Galatians 3:23-24 (NLV) The Law was used to lead us to Christ. It was our teacher, and so we were made right with God by putting our trust in Christ.*

3rd) The New Way is **SPIRITUAL**.

*Romans 7:6 (ESV) But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.*

- How to live the Christian life
- The way of the Spirit is freedom
- God gives you the freedom to be who you really are

### 3 Results of Relationship with Jesus:

A) **FREEDOM**.

*Gal. 5:1 (NCV) We have freedom now, because Christ made us free. So stand strong. Do not change and go back into the slavery of the law.*

B) **PURPOSE**.

*Romans 7:4 (NASB) Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you also were put to death in regard to*

*the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might belong to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God.*

- As a Christ follower bearing fruit is a natural offspring of our relationship with Jesus

*Gal. 5:22-23 (NIV) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*

C) **DESIRE**.

*2 Cor. 5:17 (NIV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!*

- I want to please the Lord