

Romans 7:1-11

1-3. "Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), the **the law has DOMINION** over a man **as long as he lives**? For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, **she is free from that law**, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man."

- **I Corinthians 7:39** "A _____ is _____ by the law as long as her husband _____; but if her husband _____, she is at _____ to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord." **NOTE:** Paul is not necessarily teaching about marriage here, he is merely using a universal "law" to **illustrate a point**. In almost all cultures, a woman is free to marry again if her husband dies. That dead husband has NO MORE CLAIM ON HER. Paul has already told us that WE HAVE DIED to sin and to the Old Testament Law through Christ, and now he is saying that because of that the **Old Testament Law has NO CLAIM ON THE BELIEVER IN CHRIST** whatsoever!!

4-5. "Therefore, my brethren, you also have become **dead to the law** through the BODY OF CHRIST, that you may be **married to another**, even to **Him who was raised from the dead**, that we should **bear FRUIT to God**. For when we were in the flesh, the passions of sins which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to **bear fruit to death**."

- **John 15:4-5 & 8** "Abide (stay close) in _____, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear _____ of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless _____ abide in _____. I am the _____, you are the branches. He who _____ in Me, and I in him, _____ much _____; for without Me you can do _____." (Verse 8) "By this is My Father glorified, that _____ bear much _____; so you will [*prove to*] be My disciples."
- **Romans 6:20-21** "For when you were _____ of _____, you were free in regard to righteousness. **What** _____ did you have then in the things of which you are **now ashamed**? For the _____ of those things is _____."
- **Colossians 1:10 & 21-22** "That you may have a walk _____ of the _____, fully _____ Him, being _____ in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God." (Verses 21-22) "And you, who once were alienated an enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the _____ of His _____ through _____, to present you holy, and blameless, and irreproachable in His sight."

Definition: "BEAR FRUIT to GOD" - In this context "fruit" means produce, RESULTS, outcome. The OUTCOME of our lives should be to DO what God WANTS US TO DO.

- **Ephesians 5:9-10** "(for the _____ of the _____ is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), proving what is _____ to the Lord."
- **Galatians 5:22-23** "But the _____ of the _____ is _____, _____, _____, long-suffering (patience), _____, _____, faithfulness, _____, _____ . Against such there is no law."

Definition: "MARRIED TO ANOTHER" - The church is called the bride and wife of Christ, and we are "joined" to the Lord, just as one is "joined" in marriage.

- **I Corinthians 6:16-19** "Or do you not know that he who is _____ to a harlot is one _____ with her? 'For the _____,' He says, 'Shall become _____ flesh,'

but he commits sexual immorality sins against his own _____. Or do you not know that your _____ is the _____, who is in you, whom you have from _____, and you are not your own?

- **Revelation 19:7-8** "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the _____ of the Lamb (Jesus) has come, and His _____ has made herself ready. And to here it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, _____ and _____, for fine linen is the _____ of the saints (the church)."
- **II Corinthians 3:4-6** "For I am jealous for you with _____ jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one _____, that I may _____ you as a chaste (pure, undefiled) virgin to _____."

6. "But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the **newness of the Spirit** and not in the **oldness of the letter**."

- **II Corinthians 3:4-6** "And we have such _____ through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the _____ covenant, not of the _____ but of the _____; for the _____ kills, but the _____ gives _____. But if the ministry of _____, written and engraved on _____, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of _____ because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, (See Exodus 34:1-9, 27-35) how will the ministry (working) of the _____ not be more glorious?"

Definition: "OLDNESS OF THE LETTER" - The Old Covenant, the Old Testament, the "**letter**" referring to the **WRITTEN LAW** given to Moses on TABLETS OF STONE. The penalty for breaking God's law was DEATH.

7-11. "What shall we say then? **Is the law sin? Certainly not!** On the contrary, **I would have not have KNOWN SIN except through the law.** For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, 'You shall not covet.' But **sin, taking opportunity by the commandment**, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law sin was dead. I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died."

- **Read Psalm 119:67-71** "Before I was afflicted, I went astray, but now I _____ Your _____. You are _____, and do good; _____ me Your statutes (LAWS)." (Verse 71) "It is good for me that I have been _____, that I may _____ Your statutes."
- **Psalm 119:97-104** "Oh how I _____ Your _____! It is my meditation all the day. You, through Your _____, make me _____ than my enemies; for they are ever with me. I have more _____ than all my teachers, for Your testimonies (God's work) are my _____." (Verse 104) "Through your precepts (laws, commandments) I get _____; therefore I _____ every _____ way."

Definition: "Is the LAW SIN?" - The answer is "NO!!" God's law is PERFECT. As we study and learn God's law, we get wisdom and understanding, and a knowledge of WHAT SIN REALLY IS.

Definition: "When the COMMANDMENT came, SIN revived and I DIED" - Since the penalty for breaking God's law is DEATH. and since NO ONE CAN KEEP THE LAW perfectly, the law ends up CONDEMNING US TO DEATH. "**Sin, taking opportunity by the commandment**" - means the **God's PERFECT LAW** can stir up all kinds of desires in us, in our old sin nature, to **DO JUST EXACTLY WHAT IT SAYS NOT TO DO!!** Just as a child may deliberately do the opposite of what his parents tell him to do, so **our sinful natures REACT in the same way to God's perfect law.**

- **Read James 2:8-12** (Verse 10) "For whoever shall _____ the _____ law, and yet stumble (FAIL to keep it) in one point, he is _____ of _____."

Definition: "He shall LIVE by them" - The promise of "life" in Leviticus 18:5 is NOT referring to ETERNAL LIFE in heaven, but to the QUALITY of life here on Earth. Keeping God's commandments can NEVER EARN us eternal life, but **we would ALL live BETTER LIVES** here in this lifetime if EVERYONE OBEYED even **just the Ten Commandments!!**

Definition: "SIN taking occasion by the commandment DECEIVED ME" - Sin will **ALWAYS** DECEIVE US. When we hear a COMMANDMENT of God telling us NOT to do something, our SINFUL NATURE many times tells us that God is somehow HOLDING OUT ON US, and the **He just doesn't want us to have any fun**. Quite the OPPOSITE IS TRUE - God only tells us **NOT TO DO those things** that would be **HARMFUL and DESTRUCTIVE to our lives**.

- **Galatians 6:7-8** "Do not be _____, God is not mocked; for whatever a mans sows, that will he also reap. For **he who sows to his flesh** (the old SIN nature) will of the flesh reap _____ (DEATH); but he who sows to the _____ shall from the SPIRIT reap _____."
- **Ephesians 4:22** "That you put off, concerning your former _____, the old man (our SINFUL NATURE), which is _____ according to its _____ desires and lusts."