

## Study Questions – Romans 7:1-25

**Rom. 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? <sup>2</sup> For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband. <sup>3</sup> So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; 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.

**Rom. 7:4** Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God. <sup>5</sup> For while we were in the flesh, the sinful passions, which were *aroused* by the Law, were at work in the members of our body to bear fruit for death. <sup>6</sup> But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.

**Rom. 7:7** What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? May it never be! On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law; for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, “YOU SHALL NOT COVET.” <sup>8</sup> But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind; for apart from the Law sin *is* dead. <sup>9</sup> I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died; <sup>10</sup> and this commandment, which was to result in life, proved to result in death for me; <sup>11</sup> for sin, taking an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. <sup>12</sup> So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

**Rom. 7:13** Therefore did that which is good become *a cause of* death for me? May it never be! Rather it was sin, in order that it might be shown to be sin by effecting my death through that which is good, so that through the commandment sin would become utterly sinful.

**Rom. 7:14** For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin. <sup>15</sup> For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I *would* like to *do*, but I am doing the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> But if I do the very thing I do not want *to do*, I agree with the Law, *confessing* that the Law is good. <sup>17</sup> So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good *is* not. <sup>19</sup> For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want. <sup>20</sup> But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.

**Rom. 7:21** I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. <sup>22</sup> For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, <sup>23</sup> but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. <sup>24</sup> Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

**1. To whom is Paul addressing his question? How long does the law have jurisdiction over a person? (7:1)**

**(DOC) To what law is Paul referring?**

**2. What example does Paul use to illustrate the truth in 7:1 that the law has jurisdiction over a person as long as he lives? (7:2-3)**

**(A) How does the death of Christ make you spiritually free as the death of a husband makes a woman free in regard to marriage?**

**3. What is “therefore” there for? (7:4)**

**For what purpose were Paul’s brethren made to die to the Law through the body of Christ? (7:4)**

**To Whom would they be joined? For what purpose would they be joined to Him? (7:4)**

**4. While we were in the flesh, what was at work in the members of our body to bear fruit for death? By what were they aroused? (7:5)**

**(A) Give examples of the sinful passions that were at work in the members of our body to bear fruit for death. Why would the Law arouse these sinful passions?**

**5. From what have we now been released, having died to that by which we were bound? (7:6a)**

**For what purpose have we been released from the Law? (7:6b)**

**(A) Give examples of how you serve in newness of Spirit rather than in oldness of the letter.**

**6. How does Paul defend the goodness of the Law? (7:7) Explain how the Law’s revelation of sin proves that the Law is never sinful.**

**(A) Give other examples of things that are sinful that you would not have known were sinful apart from commands not to do them.**

**7. How could Paul have once been alive apart from the Law? (7:9)**

**What happened when the commandment came? (7:9)**

**What was the intended result of the command? What was its proven result? (7:10)**

**8. How is the Law described? How is the commandment described? (7:12)**

**9. How does Paul answer his own rhetorical question, “Therefore did that which is good become a cause of death for me?”? (7:13)**

**What was the cause of Paul’s death? For what purpose did it become death for Paul? Through the commandment, what would sin become? (7:13)**

**10. What do we know about the Law? How does Paul describe himself? (7:14)**

**11. What does Paul not understand? Why is this confusing Paul? (7:15)**

**12. With what does Paul agree and what does he confess if he does the very thing he does not want to do? (7:16)**

**Who is doing the thing that Paul does not want to do? (7:17)**

**(A) What do you do that you do not want to do? According to Paul, who is doing it?**

**13. How does Paul evaluate what is dwelling inside his flesh? What is present in Paul? What is not present in him? (7:18)**

**(A) What good intentions do you have that you are powerless to accomplish?**

**14. What does Paul not do? What does he practice? (7:19)**

**(A) Give a personal example of how you can relate to what Paul is describing.**

**15. If Paul is doing the very thing that he does not want, who is doing it? (7:20)**

**16. What principle does Paul find? (7:21)**

**To what does Paul joyfully concur? What does he see in the members of his body? To what is he made a prisoner, which is in his members? (7:22-23)**

**17. How does Paul describe himself? Who will set him free from the body of this death? To Whom and through Whom does Paul give thanks? (7:24-25a)**

**What does Paul conclude? (7:25b)**

**(A) Describe what is at war in this passage. How have you experienced this same battle? In Whom will you trust and Who will you thank for setting you free?**

**18. What do you learn about God in Rom 7:1-25? How could you apply this truth to your life?**

**Write a prayer response to Rom 7:1-25.**