



When the Law Meets the Heart Romans 7:7-13

I. The Law Reveals What's in the Heart (vv. 7-8)

- A. The law is _____ sin (v. 7a) [Rom. 5:20; 7:5, 12; Psa. 19:8-9; 119:97; 2 Pet. 2:21]
- B. The law _____ us our sin (v. 7b) [Phil. 3:3-8; Rom. 3:20; 5:13]
- C. The law deals with all sin, including the sin of the _____ (vv. 7c-8) [Ex. 20:17; Jn. 14:15; Matt. 19:16-24]

II. The Law Kills All Who Place Their Trust in It (vv. 9-11)

- A. You thought you were alive, but you were _____ (v. 9) [Phil. 3:7-8; Lk. 18:13; Rom. 5:6; Matt. 23:12]
- B. What you thought defended you _____ you (v. 10) [Rom. 10:5; Deut. 30:16-18; Jms. 2:10]
- C. Sin _____ you and killed you (v. 11) [Gen. 3:13; Heb. 3:13; Luke 18:9-14]

III. The Law Reflects the Nature of the Lawgiver (v. 12)

- A. There are no unholy commandments because God is _____ (Ex. 20:3; Lev. 19:2; 1 Pet. 16)
- B. There are no unrighteous commandments because God is _____ (Dan. 9:14; 2 Cor. 5:21)
- C. There are no evil commandments because God is _____ (Ex. 20:12; 1 Chron. 16:34; Mk. 10:18)

IV. The Law Shows Sin in its True Colors (v. 13)

- A. The _____ law did not bring death (v. 13a)
- B. The _____ of sin produced death (v. 13b)
- C. The good law reveals sin's sinfulness beyond _____ (v. 13c-d)

TAKE HOME:

- Are you using the _____ of the law to see sin clearly?
- Do you ever _____ the Law for forbidding you to live a certain way?
- Will you _____ to Christ today, and every day for the rest of your life?

Application Questions

James 1:22 says, *"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."* These questions are designed to help you apply today's message in your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at (661) 259-2913.

1. In what ways has God's law exposed areas of sin in your heart that you might have otherwise overlooked? (Romans 7:7–8)
2. Do you find yourself trusting in your own efforts to keep the law, or are you relying on Christ alone for your salvation? (Philippians 3:7–9)
3. How does understanding that the law is holy, righteous, and good change your attitude toward God's commandments? (Romans 7:12)
4. Are there desires or attitudes in your heart—like coveting—that you need to confess before God today? (Exodus 20:17)
5. When confronted by your sin, are you quick to make excuses, or do you humble yourself and seek God's mercy? (Luke 18:13–14)
6. How can you let the law lead you to a deeper appreciation of God's grace and the work of Christ on the cross? (Galatians 3:24)
7. Are you tempted to see God's law as a burden, or do you view it as a reflection of His holy and loving character? (Psalm 19:8–9)
8. How does the gospel motivate you to pursue a transformed life, not just outward obedience, but a heart that loves God and others? (Matthew 22:37–39)
9. Read the take home questions. Which one challenged you or encouraged you the most? Why? How will you live differently this week based on what you learned from this passage?

"The Law reveals the human proclivity to sin. Being enticed by forbidden fruit is as old as the garden. The problem is not the law but one's reaction to it."

- Tony Merida, *Christ-Centered Exposition in Romans*