

Romans 7:1-6

Free from the Law

1. 7:1 – The Law

- a. Romans most uses 'faith' (39x), 'grace' (24x), 'law' (78x), 'flesh' (26x), 'Spirit' (21x)
- b. 'faith' the subject in ch.3-4, 'grace' ch. 4-5, 'sin' ch.5-7, 'law' ch. 7, 'flesh/spirit' ch. 8
- c. This chapter is key to understand the believer's relationship to the law today.
- d. *"know ye not"* ... since now we are not under the law in Rom 6:14-15 (a Jew would be)
- e. *"to them that know the law"* – Identity/responsibility of the Jew – Rom 2:17-20, 3:1-2
- f. *"the law hath dominion"* - Moses never over Gentiles - Rom 2:14, 3:19, 5:14, Acts 15:21
 - i. Are they still bound to the law for service, righteousness, life? Gal 3:2-3, 21, 28
- g. *"as long as he liveth?"* – You are subject/slave/in service as long as you live under it.
 - i. You have eternal life as a gift through Christ - Rom 6:23
 - ii. The point to be made: the law has no dominion over a dead man.

2. 7:2-3 – Free from the Law

- a. 7:2 – Death sets loose from the law e.g. "til death do we part"
- b. 7:3 – Death frees from the condemnation, i.e. it is no longer sin – Rom 4:15, 5:13
- c. This not new instruction on marriage (nor divorce), this is an example used to teach ...
- d. 'loosed from the law' 'free from that law' 'dead to the law' 'delivered from the law'

3. 7:4 – Bound to Christ

- a. *"ye also are become dead to the law"* – Someone once under the law, but now is dead.
 - i. Must first know what it is to be 'in Christ' 'dead to sin' acc. to Rom 5-6
 - ii. As the woman, the church has liberty; the new man being Christ - Eph 2:15, 5:32
- b. *"by the body of Christ"* – His body died under law, but now he is not under it.
 - i. This 'body' is Christ's, but you are joined to that which died – Rom 6:3-4, 6, 8
 - ii. Your death with Christ freed you from Adam, sin, death, and the law.
- c. *"ye should be married"* – Two become one; joined, bound to Him by grace - Rom 6:3-4
 - i. You are not the bride of Christ, you are His body, a new man – Eph 5:30
 - ii. The 'bride, the Lamb's wife' is a future city promised to Israel – Rev 21:9-10
 - iii. This 'marriage' has already been made when you believed - Rom 7:4, 6
 - iv. This marriage is w/o the law – which means it is not Israel's new covenant
- d. *"to him who is raised from the dead"* – Our identity not in law, but in the risen Lord.

4. 7:5-6 – To Serve in Spirit

- a. *"when we were"* – You are not any longer. Good news death is not the end – Rom 6:23
- b. *"in the flesh"* – All in Adam, in sin; for Jews, subject to the law's dominion.
- c. *"motions of sin... by the law"* – The law saw sin move and brought death - 3:19,20, 5:20
- d. *"but now we are delivered"* – Having been under it, now released from it - Ga 5:1-6
- e. *"dead wherein we were held"* – kept under the curse of the law – Gal 3:10, 3:23-25
- f. *"that we should serve"* – You are not left dead - how do we serve? A: Not under law.
- g. *"in newness of spirit"* – A renewed mind, quickened spirit by the truth of Christ by grace
- h. A new spirit required for both grace and new covenant – Eze 36:26-27, 2 Cor 3:6-7
- i. *"not in the oldness of the letter"* – The law, which is passed away – 2 Cor 5:17, Rom 10:4