

ROMANS

Romans 7:18

I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I don't want to do, I keep on doing.

Romans 7:21-25

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inner being, but I see in my members...

Romans 7:21-25

...another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

Romans 7:21-25

Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from this body of death?

Thanks be to God through

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 7:25

So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Romans 7:25

So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

In Romans 7, Paul shows us that believers still wrestle with indwelling sin.

If we try to overcome the law of sin and death by trying harder to keep the law, we will fail miserably.

You cannot live the Christian life by will-power and trying harder. Trying harder only brings more failure and self-condemnation.

The Gospel of Jesus in the power of the Spirit enables us to live the kind of life that God desires for his people.

If you belong to Christ, you are not condemned by God when you sin.

To condemn: katakrima

- To pronounce an unfavorable or adverse judgment on

To condemn: katakrima

- To express strong disapproval

To condemn: katakrima

- To censure, to sentence to punishment, to condemn to imprisonment, to pronounce guilty, to declare incurable.

If you are in Christ, sin has lost its power to separate you relationally from God.

God does not condemn you for your ongoing struggle with sin.
And if God doesn't condemn you, you have no right to condemn yourself.

We tend to think that we move in and out of condemnation as we move in and out of sin.

God is not angry with you for wanting to do right, but coming up short.

You are I are born into the system of the *law of sin and death*.

The Good News is that
God has introduced a
brand-new system called the
law of the Spirit of life in Christ.

Even though both systems are in operation, the Spirit of life system can override the power of the sin and death system.

Jesus paid sin's condemning death penalty for us by dying on the Cross, and in so doing, he condemned sin in the flesh. Because of what Jesus did for us on the Cross, we are not condemned, but sin is condemned.

What does that mean?
You are no longer condemned when you sin and you are no longer a prisoner to sin.

God doesn't condemn you when you sin, but he does condemn sin.

When you sin: Deny none of it. Confess all of it. And, rest in God's promise: "Because of Jesus, I am uncondemnable."

Jesus' life lived through us leads us to fulfill God's law apart from the law.

Romans 13:8-10 8 Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

Romans 13:8-10

9 For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Romans 13:8-10

10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Uncondemnable people learn to walk according to the Spirit. They learn to "mind" the things of the Spirit. (Romans 8:5-8)

Your life is shaped by what preoccupies your mind.

The Spirit assures us that we are no longer slaves to sin. We are children of God.

Because of Jesus, I am uncondemnable!