

IS THE LAW EVIL?

Romans 7:7-13

I. Another Absurd Question – vs. 1a

Romans 6:2, 7:4

Mē ginomai – may it never be; certainly not; perish the thought

II. The Law Exposes Sin – vs. 1b

Nay – on the contrary, just the opposite

Romans 3:20, 4:15

Philippians 3:5-6

Acts 22:3

Galatians 3:10-11

James 2:10

"The law, although it cannot secure either the justification or sanctification of men, performs an essential part in the economy of salvation. It enlightens the conscience and secures its verdict against a multitude of evils which we should not otherwise have recognized as sins. It arouses sin, it increases its power, making it both in itself and in our consciousness exceedingly sinful. It therefore produces the state of mind which is a necessary preparation for the reception of the gospel. Conviction of sin, that is an adequate knowledge of its nature and a sense of its power over us, is an indispensable part of evangelical religion. Before the gospel can be embraced as a means of deliverance from sin, we must feel we are involved in corruption and misery," – *Charles Hodge*

Deuteronomy 6:5

Matthew 22:34-40

III. The Law is an Impetus for Sin – vs. 8

Aphormé - favorable circumstances, an opportunity; military term meaning a base of operations

Genesis 3:1-5

Romans 5:12

IV. The Law Brings Death – vs. 9-11

Acts 23:6

Acts 26:5

Leviticus 18:5

Philippians 3:6-8

James 4:8-10

Luke 18:9-14

V. The Law is Holy and Just and Good – vs. 12

Psalms 119:7-16, 97

VI. The Law Doesn't Bring Death, Sin Does – vs. 13

Galatians 3:21-25

Closing Thought: The Law is not bad, flawed, or evil. The Law is holy and just and good. The Law is the instrument that God uses to show us how utterly sinful our sin is. The Gospel requires the preaching of the Law, that one can see their need for salvation from it. Has the Law revealed your sin to you? Do you now love the Law you once rebelled against? Do you desire to obey God's commandments?