

# Romans 7:1-25

The Book of Romans reveals how mankind continues to feel the need to “do works” to be saved.

**Romans Chapter 1** reveals the unrighteous of man, and shows how degraded man becomes when he rejects God. We see it in the news everyday – murders, rapes, school shootings, etc. When you take the sanctity of life (the bible and God) out of life, society degrades.

**Romans Chapter 2** reveals how man becomes self-righteous in his behavior and attitude after rejecting God.

**Romans Chapter 3** reveals what God thinks of man’s attitude in His written Word.

**Romans Chapter 4 and 5** brings out two men in detail whom the Jewish people are very familiar with: King David and Abraham: Law and Grace. Paul uses these two characters to get the lesson across. The temple was in place, the law was enforced, and sacrifices were going on.

**Romans Chapter 6** Paul is still reiterating some of the topics we just discussed, but it so important he must to make sure we understand the concept. We’re going to get into some interesting and controversial things soon.

**Romans Chapter 7** should be read by every Christian. It means absolutely nothing to someone who is not saved. This chapter means so much to Christians. It answers many questions about the battle of our old nature and new nature. It explains why we keep sinning even though we don’t want to. It explains why we can never reach a perfect spiritual state while in human form. It gives encouragement in the form of knowledge why we keep doing things of the flesh even though we now know better as Christians.

**Vs1:** should read “are you ignorant, brethren”. Look back at 6:14: *For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under law, but under grace.* Remember the church has just been formed and they still have a mindset of the old Jewish law. They were taught the old ways all their life.

**Vs2-4:** this marriage reference is for illustration only. It points out that you were bound to one person until they died, then they were released from that law (marriage). Same with Jesus Christ: you were bound to the old sacrificial laws until Christ died; now you are released from that law. Now we are in God’s grace.

**Vs5:** Paul reminds them that whenever they sinned under the old law, they were rushed to the temple to make a sacrifice to delay punishment. It did not atone for the sin.

**Vs6:** We’ve been delivered from the old law by Jesus Christ’s death and resurrection. We now serve Jesus Christ.

**Vs7:** Is the old law sin? The people are wondering. The law just defined the boundaries by God.

**Vs8:** since the law came in, it also had penalties. Mankind has inherent evil desires. Before the law, we didn’t know it was sin. After the law was given through Moses, now we know what sin is.

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**Vs9:** Paul said one time in his life, he was alive and didn't know what the law did, but when he became conscious of the law, he was put to death. The old law was temporary atonement, no life.

**Vs10:** Paul saw where he fell short by the law and he was put to death by it. Grace saves you.

**Vs11:** Paul wants to make sure that the people he is writing to understand that the law only puts people to death. It never gives life.

**Vs12:** there is nothing wrong with the law. The problem is mankind cannot be perfect in human form.

**Vs13:** People are very evil in their original nature.

**Vs14:** the law was given by God and it is spiritual. We can't live up to the law because we're carnal beings, sold under sin.

***Vs15-25** are verses every Christian should read over and over:*

**Vs15:** in my Christian life, I have the spirit in me now. But I still sin even though I don't want to. It's like my body does what it wants to without my will.

**Vs16:** when I do sin, I recognize it is wrong and against the perfect law of God. I know I committed a sin even though I didn't want to.

**Vs17:** It is no longer me that is sinning; it is the sin that dwells within me.

**Vs18:** You still have that old nature, even when you were saved and the Holy Spirit came to live in you, the old nature and new nature are now dueling for your soul. You will live in accordance to the nature you feed and nurture. This will go on your whole life.

**Vs19-20:** my old nature pops out against my will now and then.

**Vs21-23:** Paul is the only writer in the New Testament that answers the question "why do I do the things I don't want to do?" Paul says the old nature is still there, influenced by the devil, and it is in our body by default. When we invite the Holy Spirit to dwell in us, we create a war within. It will go on our whole lives.

**Vs24:** Paul looks at himself and how God looks at him and sees how he falls short in the eyes of God. He wonders who will rescue him from this internal war.

**Vs25:** Jesus Christ, that's who. With daily bible study, prayer, and vigilance, we will still battle the old nature and sin without wanting to. But if you fight the sin and keep feeding the Holy Spirit within you with bible study and prayer, the holy nature will get stronger in you, but you will never reach a point where you will never sin again.