

Sanctification by Grace: “a daily dying and rising in Christ by faith” **Romans 7:1-13**

Intro: Crucial to our walk of faith for sanctification is the right use of the law for Christians. ***What use does the law have for believers?*** What relationship is there between the law and works, or the law and the new man in Christ? What about the relationship between the old man or flesh and the law?

Main idea: ***The law puts to death all the efforts of the flesh to attain a righteousness of our own to give way for the righteousness of Christ by Grace through faith.***

- 1) ***The law was a covenant of works with Adam and all the sons of Adam are born married to that covenant.***
Natural man is under obligation to obey God for the blessing of life and under the penalty of the curse of death for disobedience. All men are born under that failed obligation in Adam having inherited the guilt and corruption of sin in their covenant head, Adam. V.1-3

- 2) ***To be in the flesh means to be a son of Adam who lives under the condemnation of the law obligated to work for righteousness for life and to pay with death their failure to conform to the law's demand for righteousness.***
Man by nature lives with a sense of law insofar as we all try to justify and excuse our actions on the basis of some sense of right and wrong. V.5, 9

- 3) ***Man in the flesh does not consider himself a transgressor of God's law and worthy of death because they have become a law to themselves and excuse/hide their evil actions by putting forth their own good ones.*** They believe, generally, wrong is an action or a state that can be corrected with a canceling good action or state of being. Natural man always tries to lift themselves up by attaining some kind of higher morality or state of being in themselves. V.5,9

- 4) ***God's law reveals that we commit sin because we desire sin; a sinner is who we are by nature, by birth, and by inheritance.*** Before we commit sin, we are already sinners because of the guilt and corruption we have inherited. ***Born with sinful desires that enslave our will, which is the essence of sin,*** will inevitably lead us to commit all kinds of sin. The law reveals our guilt, corruption, and condemnation in Adam and in us by inheritance. V.7-13

- 5) ***Our marriage to the old covenant and liability under Adam must be annulled for us to receive new life.*** We died to the law's demand for righteousness unto life in Christ to receive all perfect righteousness and the fruits thereof by the Spirit. The Spirit, by Grace through faith, unites me to Christ thus remitting all my sins to Christ's death and providing all righteousness in His perfect life and resurrection. ***I'm no longer under the law's demand and penalty for righteousness (works-righteousness), but in-Christ living by the Spirit (gift-righteousness) where fruits of righteousness may abound of Grace through faith.*** V.4-6