

Indwelling Sin, pt 2 – Rom 7:21-25

Romans 7:14–25 **14** For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. **15** For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. **16** Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. **17** So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. **18** For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. **19** For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. **20** Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. **21** So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. **22** For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, **23** but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. **24** Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? **25** Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

1. Indwelling Sin Does What We Hate 14-17

14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. **15** For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. **16** Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. **17** So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

A. My Flesh Sold Under Sin 14

14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin.

B. I Do What I Hate 15

15 For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.

C. No Longer I but Sin 16-17

16 Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. **17** So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

2. Indwelling Sin Undermines Good Desires 18-20

18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. **19** For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. **20** Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

A. My Flesh Drawn to Sin 18a

18a For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh.

B. I Can't Do What I Want 18-19

18b For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. **19** For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.

C. No Longer I but Sin 20

20 Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

A Christian is not a person who experiences zero bad desires. A Christian is a person who is at war with every distorted desire by the power of the Spirit. – John Piper

3. Indwelling Sin Wages War in Us 21-23

21 So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. 22 For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, 23 but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

A. Sin Lurks Close by Us 21

21 So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand.

B. Flesh Wars Against Us 22-23

22 For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, 23 but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind

C. Flesh Captures Us 23b

23b and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

1 John 1:6–10 6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

4. Indwelling Sin Drives us to Christ 24-25

24 Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

A. Wretched in Ourselves 24

24 Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

B. Blessed in Christ 25

25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Galatians 5:16–18 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.