

The Struggle with the Flesh **Romans 7:13-25**

I. QUESTION #1: "is good...a cause of death?" (vv.13-14)

A. Response: "rather it was sin...utterly sinful" (v.13)

1. Exclamation: "May it never be" (v.13a)
2. Explanation: "sin...shown to be sin" (v.13b)

B. Reality: "the Law is spiritual...I am of flesh" (v.14)

1. Guidance: "we know the Law is spiritual" (v.14a)
2. Groanings: "I am of flesh, sold in bondage" (v.14b) [See Romans 8:18-25]

II. QUANDARY: "evil is present in me" (vv.15-23)

A. Struggle: "doing the very thing I hate" (vv.15-17)

1. Perplexity: "I do not understand" (vv.15-16)
2. Responsibility: "no longer am I the one doing it" (v.17)

B. Stress: "nothing good...in my flesh" (vv.18-20)

1. Physically: "the wishing is present in me" (vv.18-19)
2. Reality: "doing the very thing I do not wish" (v.20)

C. Source: "a different law...waging war" (vv.21-23)

1. Principle: "evil is present in me" (v.21)
2. Rivalry: "the inner man...my members" (vv.22-23)

III. QUESTION #2: "Who will set me free?" (vv.24-25)

A. Grueling: "Wretched man that I am" (v.24)

1. Distress: "Wretched man" (v.24a)
2. Deliverer: "Who will set me free" (v.24b)

B. Gratitude: "Thanks be to God!" (v.25)

1. Savior: "Thanks...through Jesus Christ" (v.25a)
2. Service: "the law of God...the law of sin" (v.25b)

Next week: Read Romans 8:1-17 (part one)