

We must be free from the
Law, in order to be free
from sin

Or, our sanctification as
believers requires liberation
from the Law

The reign of sin and death has
been replaced by the reign of
grace

- Romans 5.12-21

- Adam brought sin and condemnation to the entire race, 5.12-15
- Jesus brings righteousness and justification to all who believe, 5.16-19
- The Law functions to magnify sin, 5.20-21

- The magnification of sin serves to magnify grace, 5.20-21
- And now grace reigns

There is a right and wrong
way to think about that

- Romans 6.1-23

Wrong way: "if sin brings grace, let's sin more!" 6.1

- Right way: "understand exactly what happened when you believed in Jesus," 6.2-14
- Notice: "dead to sin" (6.1) is "not under the Law" (6.14)

- Wrong way: "If I'm not under the Law, can I continue in sin?" 6.15
- Right way: "Free from the Law is freedom to serve righteousness," 6.16-23

Paul is adamant: we can live in true righteousness ONLY if we understand that we are free from the Law

He illustrates his position:

Romans 7.1-3

- Only by the death of a spouse, is a person unencumbered in remarriage
- Note: Believers are the wives in this illustration
- Believers are still under God

He explains his position:

Romans 7.4-25

- Being under the Law was like being married to the Law, 7.4
- That union didn't produce Godly fruit, but fruit to death, 7.5-6

- Does that mean the Law was a bad spouse? 7.7
- NO! The Law was a good spouse, 7.7-13
- How is it good, if it wrought death? 7.14-25
- The Law is spiritual, but I am not

- Paul sees a "new man" (Romans 6.3-8), and an "old man" (7.17)
- The new man loves the Law, 7.16; 7.22
- The old man loves sin, 7.18, 7.23