

“The Romans Road Rebooted”—Part 10

JUNE 15, 2014

LAST TIME WE ENDED OUR SERIES IN ROMANS:

The GRACE of God through Christ Jesus does not give us freedom from the LAW, but freedom from SIN.

✦ *Jesus did not come to ABOLISH the Law, but to FULFILL it.*

✦ *Jesus told us to make disciples and teach them to OBEY everything He had COMMANDED.*

✦ *John told us that if we claim to KNOW Christ then we OBEY His commandments and if we don't we are nothing more than LIARS.*

✦ *Grace does not give us freedom to do as we please, but to obey what Christ commands because APART from His grace we CANNOT.*

✦ *Therefore the FRUIT evidenced in our lives reveals what has dominion over us.*

✦ *So why are there those who are against the Law (ANTINOMIAN) in its application? Could it be that sin has dominion in their lives, and they need a LOOPHOLE?*

✦ *Romans 6:23 tells us that what we earn from sin is death, but the gift of God in Christ Jesus is eternal life. Which has dominion over you? Which is your master? Sin or Christ Jesus?*

The affect of the Law is BINDING on us as long as we LIVE. (7:1-6)

- **KYRIEÚŌ (THAYER'S GREEK DICT.)**

to be lord of, to rule, have dominion over; of things and forces, to exercise influence upon, to have power over

1. This is why it is necessary for us to DIE, in order that we might LIVE for Christ.

- **GALATIANS 2:19-21 (ESV)**

¹⁹For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. ²⁰I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

2. Although the law is HOLY, JUST and GOOD, the sinner's subjection to it results only in CONDEMNATION.

- **JOHN 3:17-18 (ESV)**

¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

- **ROMANS 5:15-17 (ESV)**

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. ¹⁷For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

3. Therefore, “marriage” to the Law and its affects are BROKEN, giving us FREEDOM to marry another, JESUS CHRIST.

- **GALATIANS 5:1 (ESV)**

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

4. We are no longer CONDEMNED by the Law, nor are we ADULTEROUS.

- ROMANS 8:1-2 (ESV)

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

- JOHN 8:31-36 (ESV)

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" ³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

5. The believer dies through being UNITED with Christ in His death, breaking the chain of DISOBEDIENCE and death that bound the sinner together with Adam in his destiny.

- ROMANS 6:5-11 (ESV)

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

6. However, if we do not die to ourselves and to the affects of the Law, and try to live for Christ in and of ourselves, we are living in ADULTERY and PROSTITUTE the grace of God.

- GALATIANS 5:2-6 (ESV)

² Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. ³ I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. ⁴ You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. ⁵ For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. ⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

- 1 JOHN 3:4-10 (ESV)

⁴ Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵ You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶ No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. ⁸ Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹ No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. ¹⁰ By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

The LAW is not SIN, nor is it SINFUL! (7:7-14)

- ROMANS 7:12 (ESV)

¹² So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

1. Because we are not RIGHTEOUS in and of ourselves, the LAW is necessary.

- ROMANS 3:10-18 (ESV)

¹⁰ As it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; ¹¹ no one understands; no one seeks for God. ¹² All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." ¹³ "Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive." "The venom of asps is under their lips." ¹⁴ "Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness." ¹⁵ "Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶ in their paths are ruin and misery, ¹⁷ and the way of peace they have not known." ¹⁸ "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

2. Remember, the Law makes us KNOWLEDGEABLE of sin, it does not MAKE us sin.

- ROMANS 3:19-20 (ESV)

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, *so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.* ²⁰ *For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.*

3. We are SINFUL, making our very NATURE, apart from Christ, SINFUL, and therefore, reaping what we sow.

- GALATIANS 6:7-8 (ESV)

⁷ Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Then why do we still sin and what are we to do? (7:15-25)

- ✚ Paul is describing himself and Christians generally who, although in Christ and free from the condemnation of the Law, do not yet perfectly fulfill the requirements of the Law.
- ✚ In Paul's self-analysis here of elements found in persons who have been united with the risen Christ to new life in the Spirit.
- ✚ He is describing a profound conflict that every Christian finds inherent in his life...Christ dwells in them, yet sin does as well...This is called the "already" and "not yet" dimension of salvation.
- ✚ So what is Paul's point here then, especially if in 1 John 3 it says that if we are born of God, we will not continue sinning?

1. Notice that Paul does not CONDONE his sin.

2. Notice that Paul is CONFLICTED by his sin.

3. Notice that Paul is CONVICTED by his sin.

4. Notice that Paul is CONDEMNED by his sin.

5. Notice that Paul is CONVINCED and CELEBRATES that only Christ can set him free from his sin.

- ROMANS 8:1-2 (ESV)

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² *For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.*