




# TRANSFORMED!

KNOWING & DOING GOD'S WILL

*An In-depth Study of Paul's Letter to the Church in Rome*

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**What's Inside**  
*When I Look Closely*

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# Struggling with Sin

**ROMANS 7:1-25**

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*Knowing & Doing  
God's Will*

## FOCAL PASSAGES FOR TODAY:

❖ **ROMANS 7:1-6**

❖ **ROMANS 7:7-13**

❖ **ROMANS 7:14-25**

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## ROMANS 12:2 (CSB)

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Do not be conformed to this age, but be **TRANSFORMED**  
by the renewing of your mind, **so that you may discern what is  
the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.**

## Released from the Law

**ROMANS 7:1-6**

## ROMANS 7:1-6 (NLT)

<sup>1</sup>Now, dear brothers and sisters—you who are familiar with the law—don't you know that the law applies only while a person is living? <sup>2</sup>For example, when a woman marries, the law binds her to her husband as long as he is alive. But if he dies, the laws of marriage no longer apply to her. <sup>3</sup>So while her husband is alive, she would be committing adultery if she married another man. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law and does not commit adultery when she remarries.

<sup>4</sup>So, my dear brothers and sisters, this is the point: You died to the power of the law when you died with Christ. And now you are united with the one

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## ROMANS 7:1-6 (NLT)

who was raised from the dead. As a result, we can produce a harvest of good deeds for God. <sup>5</sup>When we were controlled by our old nature, sinful desires were at work within us, and the law aroused these evil desires that produced a harvest of sinful deeds, resulting in death. <sup>6</sup>But now we have been released from the law, for we died to it and are no longer captive to its power. Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the new way of living in the Spirit.

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## ROMANS 7:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Now, dear brothers and sisters—  
you who are familiar with the law—  
don't you know that the law applies  
only while a person is living?

Paul has just argued that the  
believer is no longer under  
the rule of sin.

Now he adds that  
believers are no longer  
under the rule of law either.

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## ROMANS 7:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Now, dear brothers and sisters—  
you who are familiar with the law—  
don't you know that **the law applies**  
**only while a person is living?**

**What?**  
How can that be true?

The law doesn't apply  
to dead people!

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## ROMANS 7:1-6

Is this passage about marriage and divorce?

Then, what does this passage exemplify?

<sup>2</sup>For example, when a woman marries, the law binds her to her husband as long as he is alive. But if he dies, the laws of marriage no longer apply to her.

<sup>3</sup>So while her husband is alive, she would be committing adultery if she married another man. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law and does not commit adultery when she remarries.

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## ROMANS 7:1-6 (NLT)

<sup>4</sup>So, my dear brothers and sisters, this is the point: **You died to the power of the law when you died with Christ.** And now you are united with the one who was raised from the dead. As a result, we can produce a harvest of good deeds for God

How do we know that?  
Paul tells us himself!

The law doesn't apply  
to dead people!

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## ROMANS 7:1-6 (NLT)

<sup>5</sup>When we were controlled by our old nature, sinful desires were at work within us, and the law aroused these evil desires that produced a harvest of sinful deeds, resulting in death.

<sup>6</sup>But now **we have been released from the law, for we died to it** and are no longer captive to its power. Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the **new way of living** in the Spirit.

As a wife is no longer married to her husband when he dies, a Christian is no longer under the Law.

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Life in the Spirit

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# The Law Reveals Sin

## ROMANS 7:7-13

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## ROMANS 7:7-13 (NLT)

<sup>7</sup>Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful? Of course not! In fact, it was the law that showed me my sin. I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, "You must not covet." <sup>8</sup>But sin used this command to arouse all kinds of covetous desires within me! If there were no law, sin would not have that power. <sup>9</sup>At one time I lived without understanding the law. But when I learned the command not to covet, for instance, the power of sin came to life <sup>10</sup>and I died. So I discovered that the law's commands, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death instead. <sup>11</sup>Sin took advantage of those commands and deceived me; it used

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## ROMANS 7:7-13 (NLT)

the commands to kill me. <sup>12</sup>But still, the law itself is holy, and its commands are holy and right and good.

<sup>13</sup>But how can that be? Did the law, which is good, cause my death? Of course not! Sin used what was good to bring about my condemnation to death. So we can see how terrible sin really is. It uses God's good commands for its own evil purposes.

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## ROMANS 7:7 (NLT)

<sup>7</sup>Well then, **am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful?**

**Absolutely not!**

<sup>7</sup>...In fact, **it was the law that showed me my sin.** I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, "You must not covet."

<sup>12</sup>But still, **the law itself is holy, and its commands are holy and right and good.**

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## ROMANS 7:13 (NLT)

<sup>13</sup>But how can that be? Did the law, which is good, cause my death? Of course not! **Sin used what was good to bring about my condemnation** to death. So we can see how terrible sin really is. It uses God's good commands for its own evil purposes.

**The law kills no one.  
Rather, it is sin that kills.**

**"Law enters the room, sin springs to life, and we die."**

**The Law Reveals Sin**

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# Struggling with Sin

## *The Conflict of Two Natures*

### ROMANS 7:14-25

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### ROMANS 7:14-25 (NLT)

<sup>14</sup>So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin. <sup>15</sup>I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. <sup>16</sup>But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

<sup>18</sup>And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. <sup>19</sup>I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. <sup>20</sup> But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

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## ROMANS 7:14-25 (NLT)

<sup>21</sup>I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. <sup>22</sup>I love God’s law with all my heart. <sup>23</sup>But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. <sup>24</sup>Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? <sup>25</sup>Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God’s law, but because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin.

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## ROMANS 7:14 (NLT)

<sup>14</sup>So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. **The trouble is with me**, for I am all too human, a slave to sin.

Paul has switched to writing in the first person now.

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## ROMANS 7:15-17 (NLT)

<sup>15</sup>I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. <sup>16</sup>But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

Can you relate to the Apostle Paul?

Anyone else wrestling with a sinful nature?

Ugh, I'm right there with Paul!

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## ROMANS 7:18-20 (NLT)

<sup>18</sup>And I know that **nothing good lives in me**, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. <sup>19</sup>I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. <sup>20</sup> But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

Nothing good lives in me, Paul says.

We may have a new heart, but we still have a sinful nature.

We will wrestle with sin for as long as we live in these mortal bodies.

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## ROMANS 7:24 (NLT)

<sup>24</sup>Oh, what a miserable person I am! **Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death?**

<sup>25</sup>**Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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- ❖ **The Apostle Paul is not alone in expressing his frustration and exasperation with sin.**
  - Many of us have found ourselves in the exact same place.
  - In the flesh, we will never conquer our sin nature, nothing good lives in us, as Paul said.
- ❖ **Victory over sin comes only through a relationship with Jesus Christ and the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit.**
- ❖ **We will learn more about the life-giving Spirit next week, I hope you will join us.**

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