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ROMANS 7: THE MOST DIFFICULT WAR



MAY 15, 2022



Romans 7:1-6 (NKJV)

¹Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives?

²For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to *her* husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of *her* husband. ³So then if, while *her*

husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man.

⁴Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

⁵For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death. ⁶But now we have been delivered from the law,

having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not *in* the oldness of the letter.



Marriage is binding
as long as both
parties are alive.

Matthew 19:1–10 (NKJV)

¹Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished these sayings, *that* He departed from Galilee and came to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan.

²And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them there.

³The Pharisees also came to Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for *just* any reason?”

⁴And He answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning ‘*made them male and female,*’ ⁵and said, ‘*For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh*’? ⁶So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”

⁷They said to Him, “Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?”

⁸He said to them, “Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. ⁹And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.”

¹⁰His disciples said to Him, “If such is the case of the man with *his* wife, it is better not to marry.”

I'm
sorry!





- ♥ God joins together.
- ♥ Moses acted due to man's hardness of heart.
- ♥ From the beginning it was not so.
- ♥ No divorce except for sexual infidelity.
- ♥ Disciples say: If that is so, why would anyone marry?

Romans 7:7-12 (NKJV)

⁷What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, “*You shall not covet.*” ⁸But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all *manner of evil* desire. For apart from the law sin *was* dead. ⁹I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. ¹⁰And the commandment, which *was* to *bring* life, I found to *bring* death. ¹¹For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed *me*. ¹²Therefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.





epithumia =
evil desires



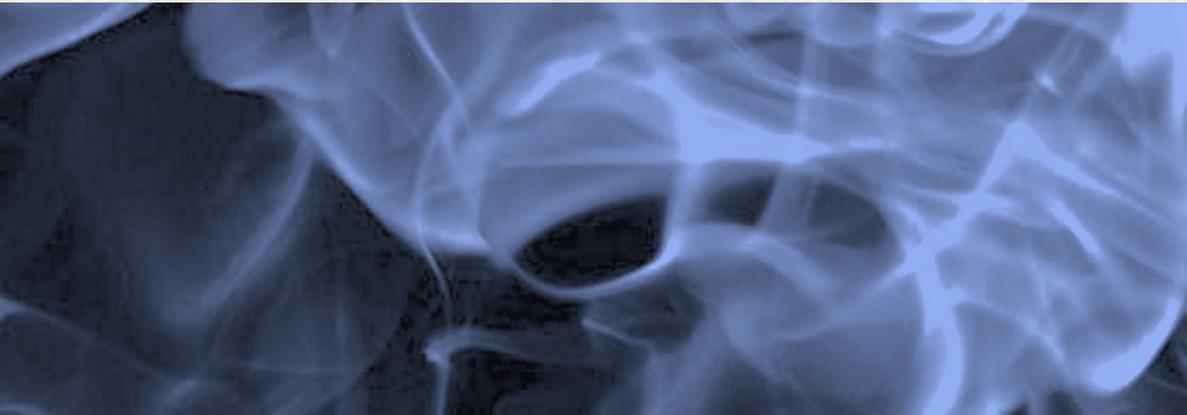
Apart from
the Law
sin was dead
(not absent).



The
commandment
to bring life
brought death.



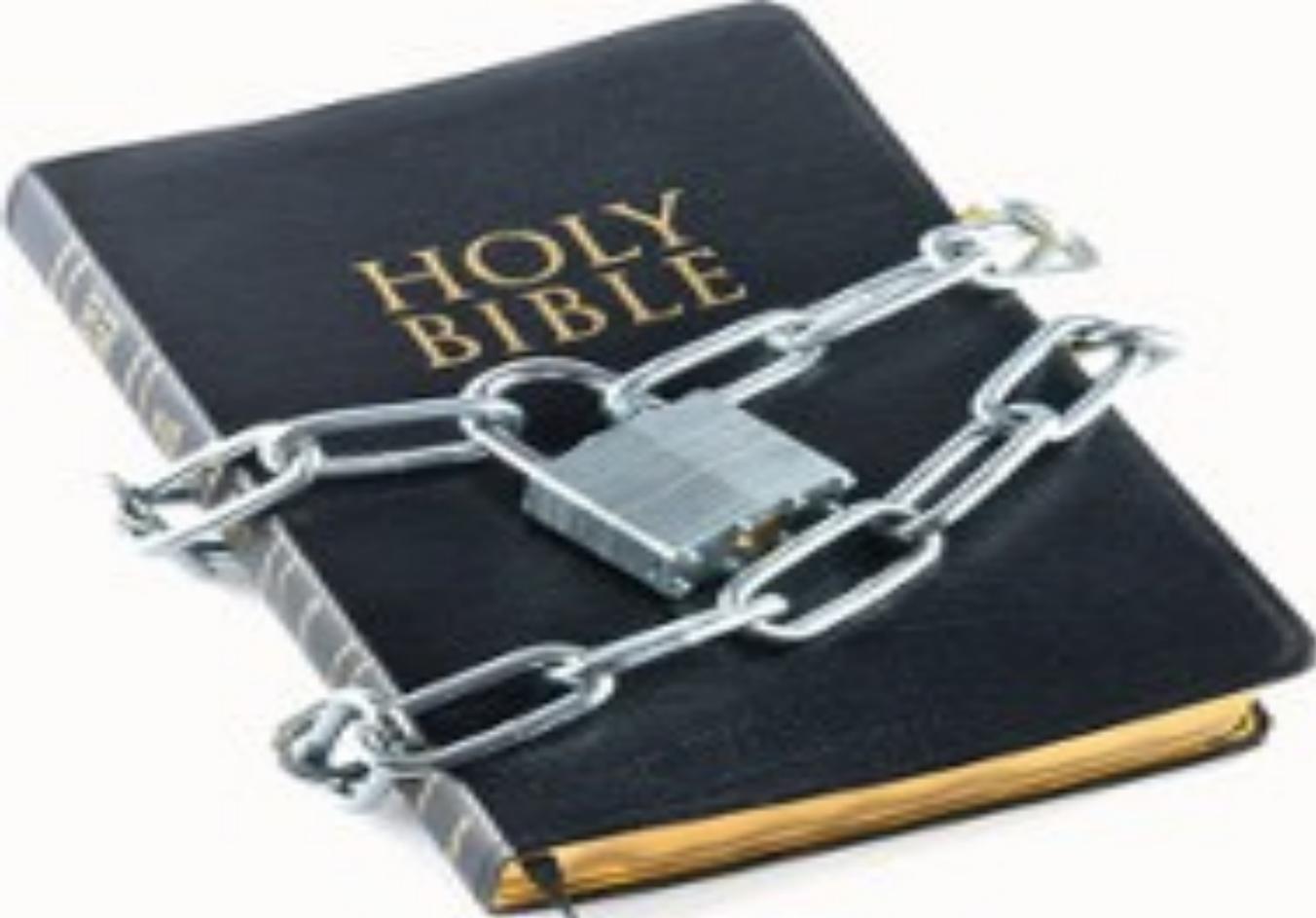
The Law
is holy
and good.





Romans 7:13-20

¹³Has then what is good become death to me? Certainly not! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful. ¹⁴For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin. ¹⁵For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. ¹⁶If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that *it is* good. ¹⁷But now, *it is* no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. ¹⁸For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but *how* to perform what is good I do not find. ¹⁹For the good that I will *to do*, I do not do; but the evil I will not *to do*, that I practice. ²⁰Now if I do what I will not *to do*, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.



The Law made
sin appear as
what it is.





The problem is
that I do the
opposite of what
I know to do.





Romans 7:21-25

²¹I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good.

²²For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. ²³But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

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

²⁵ I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.