

INSIDEout Series

Part 2, week 4

4.12.21

Romans 7:1-8:1

LEAVING LEGALISM BEHIND

I. The Gospel Changes Who We Are

A. What was Once a Regression is now a Progression (Rom 6:22)

Our Righteousness in Christ

1. Results in eternal life
2. Leads to "Holiness": Sanctification here and now
 - Being Made into the Likeness of Christ
 - "hagiasmos": "hagios" holy and "asmos"
 - any noun that ends in "asmos" describes not a completed state, but a process.

SANCTIFICATION IS THE ROAD TO HOLINESS

B. The Gift Worth Sharing (vs 23)

- Sinners are justified by God through faith in Jesus Christ (4:13)
- But now, we're no longer under the law, but under grace (6:14)

C. The "not really, never gonna, no hope" lies

What happens when the reality of my new identity doesn't match the practicality of my behavior? Does the latter nullify the former?

1. Does it mean it's **not really** for me here and now?
2. Does it mean it's **never going** to happen? Has God given up on me?
3. Does it mean there's **no hope**, that I'm defeated?

II. Released from the Law: a Metaphor of Marriage (vs 1-6)

A. The Legal Principle (v1)

- the law has authority over someone only as long as they live

B. The Domestic Illustration (v2-3)

- "until death do us part"

C. The Theological Application (v4)

- we have died to the law through the death of Christ on the Cross
- and in his resurrection life, we belong to him

D. The Real Life Implication (vs 5-6)

1. In our old life: we were controlled by the sinful nature and its fruit for death
2. In our new life: we have been released from the law and the consequence of sin
3. Serving in the new way of the Spirit

IN CHRIST WE ARE FREED TO SERVE, NOT FREED TO SIN
OBEDIENCE DOES NOT LEAD TO SALVATION, BUT SALVATION TO OBEDIENCE

III. Law, Sin, and Death (v7-13)

A. Is the Law Sinful? -NO!

1. **Exposes** sin
2. **Provokes** sin
3. **Condemns** sin

B. Did the Law cause death?

- NO! God forbid! (Vs 13)
- the law doesn't cause death, sin does

IV. Living in The Already and the Not Yet (vs 14-25)

A. The In-Between

- Both alive in Christ and also living in this age
 - It's the tension we experience of the in between.
 - the "already" of the Kingdom's inauguration and the "not yet" of its final consummation, where we battle between flesh and spirit

B. Getting real

3 key truths about the law of sin: Romans 7:21-23

1. We find this law inside us
2. We find this law when we're at our best, not just at our worst
3. This law never rests

V. Rescued by Christ and Delivered for Life (Romans 7:24-8:1)

Three truths about our life in Christ:

A. Our Rescue isn't only for our "not yet" but also for our "here and now".

- "There is Now" -in the present tense... here and now
 - through the upward and forward projecting process of sanctification
 - Christ is with us and sends us His Spirit to minister in us

B. We Rest in confidence not condemnation

- “no condemnation” is because of our full and finished justification through Christ's work on the cross **(Philippians 1:6)**

C. The Spirit that brings life is greater than the sin that brings death

- Now "the law of the Spirit of life" has set you free from the law of sin and death

LIFE IN CHRIST IS A LIFE OVERCOME, IS LIFE STILL TO COME,
AND A LIFE NOW BECOMING.