

Romans # 099

“Thanks be to God who Delivers Me through Jesus Christ our Lord”

Romans 7:15-25

Paul consistently showed man’s need for righteousness and his inability to produce it by his own works and so, enter the righteousness that God provides for the lost and produces in the saved.

A legalistic Lordship salvationist is uncomfortable with the idea that Christians struggle with sin but there’s no getting around it, this is the struggle of a believer.

The unbeliever’s enemy is God and whether he knows it or not, his struggle is with His Creator and his troubles are the result of the wrath of God.

Our struggle with sin is a war within which results *from* our conversion, so it did not exist until we were saved.

The purpose of the Mosaic Law is to reveal the problem of man’s hopeless lost condition and the only solution to it.

Personal sin, such as coveting, is the result of having a sin nature but not the means of condemnation from the justice of God.

The true ministry of the Mosaic Law in Codex 1 is to reveal the existence of the sin nature through the perfect standards of God.

There is nothing wrong with the marriage counsellor, the Law, which is perfect and reveals the perfect standards of God’s righteousness.

The standards reveal the sinfulness of the sin nature and the status produced by it; spiritual death which existed before the Mosaic Law but the Law revealed it.

The issue is not the fact that we sin; it’s the fact that we do not avail ourselves of the grace system for getting back into fellowship immediately.

Carnality is failure to recover, while rebellion is the neglect of biblical truth.

The 2nd marriage is where the husband, Jesus Christ is perfect and can’t sin, where the new marriage counsellor, the Holy Spirit is perfect and can’t sin and where the only weakness in the 2nd marriage is the believer.

The only thing that breaks the authority of the sin nature after we sin, is recovery.

Carnality is not just sinning once, as sinning takes us out of fellowship but it does not become carnality unless we stay out of fellowship without immediate recovery.

The trends of the sin nature are not checked by self-determination but by the filling of the Holy Spirit which is only recovered by confession of sin.

Rebellion is the next stage in which the believer gets into good and evil, the other trends of the sin nature.

Paul is desiring to advance spiritually and please Christ by taking in biblical truth to glorify Him but all good intentions are neutralized by the lure of the 1st husband, the sin nature, with its trends toward sin, good and evil.

This is a reference to either sinfulness without recovery or reaction to that sinfulness which is the production of human good, eventually becoming evil.

This production is the wife in the 2nd marriage returning to the ex-husband, the sin nature and finding him more attractive than the 2nd husband, the Lord Jesus Christ. *Proper response to imputed righteousness demands 2 things: recovery when necessary and consistent processing of the Word of God.*

The sin nature has overcome the determination of the believer by leading him into a lifestyle he doesn't understand and often despises but nevertheless continues in it for two obvious reasons: neglect of recovery and neglect or rejection of biblical truth.

To experientially place ourselves under the orders of our 2nd husband through daily learning and applying His Word, is to turn away from temporary stimulation and the false happiness of the devil's world and look to a perfect, temporal and eternal happiness provided by the justice of God in the righteousness of God imputed to us!

Once the solution has been accepted by faith alone in Christ alone, the battle between the two husbands begins, as there's no battle when there is only one husband but retroactive positional truth divorces us from the sin nature, the 1st husband and simultaneously marries us to the 2nd husband, Jesus Christ through current positional truth related to the baptism by the Holy Spirit.

When the believer sins from his own free-will, he's doing something incompatible with his new marriage to Jesus Christ, so he's doing something he doesn't desire to do and he agrees to the advantage of the Law in defining sin and in defining establishment principles, so that the trends of the sin nature can be avoided in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Paul's not denying the involvement of his free-will but he is renouncing the function of the sin nature as the ex-husband.

The believer is not master of his inner life, so he has a need of a marriage counsellor in the 2nd marriage, the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit enables the believer's free-will to make decisions which please the Lord Jesus Christ rather than the sin nature.

Only the filling of the Spirit and Bible truth resident in the soul can offset the gravitational pull of the sin nature encouraging sin, good and evil.

There is one room even larger:

The room for improvement!

"I'm not the person I want to be and

*I'm not the person I ought to be
but thanks be to God, I'm not the person
I used to be."*