

SET FREE FROM SIN & LAW BY DEATH

Part 3 THE KEY TO LIVING FREE FROM SIN & LAW

We saw last week that we are dead to The Law of Moses.

Romans 7:4 BLB

*Likewise, my brothers, **you also have been put to death to the Law through the body of Christ ...***

BUT WE ALSO MADE A MORE OUTRAGEOUS STATEMENT

That was ...

'Not only have we been released from the penalty of the broken law. We have been released from all responsibility of trying to keep the law from now on!' –

WE HAVE FINISHED WITH THE EXTERNAL LAW OF MOSES

Jesus said it ...

Luke 16:16 NKJV

The law and the prophets were [only] until John [the last of the Old Testament prophets]. **Since that time** the kingdom of God has been preached and everyone is pressing into it [rushing into it].

Paul said it ...

Romans 10:4 BSB

For Christ [Himself] is the end of the law, to bring righteousness to everyone who believes

I have paraphrased our text from last Sunday to make this clearer

Romans 7:6 CLV **SLIDE**

Now in Christ we have been totally released from the Ten Commandments. They No Longer apply to us anymore.

From now on we should NO LONGER try to obey them because we have been called to live a **new way in the Spirit.**

I have put it so **unapologetically outrageously, so we can actually get the impact of what Paul is saying here.**

If this makes us cringe, we can see how much **we are still holding onto the legal ways of The Old Testament.**

I ACTUALLY KNOW SOME PEOPLE WHO WOULD, AT THIS POINT, GET UPSET & LEAVE IN ANGER, CALLING ME AN ANTINOMIAN ...

They say, ‘See I told you he was into “Free Grace” ... telling people to sin with impunity ...’

Other, more open believers, ask the question, ‘But if we are NOT UNDER LAW ANYMORE, how are we now supposed to live in ‘Grace’?’

Someone asked me this just the other day.

THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION IS IN THIS TEXT ...

Romans 7:6 NLT Redacted **SLIDE**

But now we have been released from the law ... we can serve God ... in the new way of living in the Spirit.

What most people fail to see is ... Paul did not stop at saying ‘We are not to obey the Ten Commandments.’

He went on to say –

WE ARE NOW CALLED TO LIVE A NEW WAY IN THE SPIRIT OF LIFE

SO, WHAT IS THIS NEW & LIVING WAY & WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS AND THE OLD TESTAMENT WAY OF LIVING?

- IN THE OLD TESTAMENT **THE LETTER** OF THE LAW WAS **OUTSIDE US** ... ON TABLES OF STONE
- IN THE NEW TESTAMENT **THE SPIRIT** OF THE LAW IS **INSIDE US**

LET’S LOOK AT HOW THE OLD TESTAMENT LAW DIDN’T WORK

SLIDE

WITH THE LAW OF MOSES, WE HAD TO ALIGN OURSELVES TO AN **EXTERNAL STANDARD.**

SLIDE BUT EVEN IF WE MANAGED TO STAND UPRIGHT **ON THE OUTSIDE**, **THE INSIDE** WOULD REMAIN AN UNCHANGED SINNER.

A PERSON MIGHT PERFORM THE LETTER OF THE LAW BUT THEY WOULD STILL FAIL IN **THE SPIRIT OF THE LAW.**

Jesus spoke of this and slew all self-righteousness

Matthew 5:21-22 BSB

You have heard that it was said to the ancients, 'Do not murder' and 'Anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' ²² *But I tell you that anyone who is **angry** with his brother will be subject to judgment ...*

ANGER IS THE *INTERNAL* PROBLEM THAT PRODUCES THE MURDER

THE WRITTEN LAW DIDN'T TALK ABOUT THIS

JESUS HOWEVER, SPOKE OF *THE SPIRIT OF THE LAW BEYOND THE WRITTEN LAW*

(See also Matthew 5:27 where Jesus speaks about adultery)

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

GOD PUT *THE SPIRIT OF THE LAW WITHIN US*

- **LIVING ACCORDING TO NEW TESTAMENT GRACE IS LIVING FROM A LIFE WITHIN US – AN INTERNAL LIFE**

JEREMIAH TELLS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CONCEPT OF LIVING

Jeremiah 31:31 & 33 BSB **SLIDE**

*Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make **a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. ³³...This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD. **I will put My law in their minds and *inscribe it on their hearts***. And I will be their God and they will be My people.*

NB: 'A NEW COVENANT'

THIS IS 'THE NEW TESTAMENT' – A NEW WAY OF LIVING AS OPPOSED TO THE OLD TESTAMENT WAY OF LIVING.

THIS SPEAKS ABOUT *THE LAW WITHIN*

Hebrews 8:10 BSB **SLIDE** (quoting Jeremiah 31:33)

... I will put My laws in their minds and inscribe them on their hearts ...

Minds (dianoian) [Strong's 1271](#): From dia and nous; deep thought,

Inscribe (epigrapso) [Strong's 1924](#): To imprint a mark on. From epi and grapho; to inscribe. To imbed the design into

Hearts (Kardia) = Deep feelings – The Centre

THE NEW TESTAMENT CONCEPT IS THE SPIRIT OF THE LAW

God places in us and **inscribes upon our hearts (the centre of our being) The Spirit** of His Eternal Law.
It becomes the central part of us ...

This is the Spirit of the Law – the Spirit of Life.
God's heart of holiness becomes our heart ...

IT IS THE VERY SPIRIT OF THE LAW THAT HAS BEEN IMPARTED INTO & INSCRIBED UPON US IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

SO WHY SHOULD WE NOW STILL TRY AND KEEP THE EXTERNAL LAW?

David prophesied of the way Jesus operated and kept all the law without trying to keep The Law –

Psalm 40:8 BSB **SLIDE**

*I delight to do Your will, O my God; **Your law is within my heart.***

THIS IS THE KEY TO A NEW WAY OF OPERATING / SERVING / WALKING ... FREE FROM SIN & LAW

Romans 6:4 NKJV

*... We also should **walk** in newness of life.*

Ezekiel puts it like this ...

Ezekiel 36:27 BSB **SLIDE**

*I will put My Spirit within you and **cause you to walk in My statutes** [a decree by a monarch] and to carefully [intricately / accurately] observe My ordinances [divine Laws or ways].*

THIS IS A WALK MOTIVATED FROM A SPIRIT WITHIN, NOT THE LETTER WITHOUT.

TWO ILLUSTRATIONS

Living under the law of Moses is like playing the piano from music, technically well, but lacking internal feeling ... There is something missing on the inside.

I have known people with high diplomas of music but **THEY LACK ANY NATURAL FLOW.**

SLIDE *I saw Torvill and Dean skate their way into stardom, SKATING TO RAVEL'S BOLERO ... winning Gold at the 1984 Olympics with a routine that will live in the memories of generations to come.*

Other competitors were technically as brilliant but there was something else about this couple.

It was THE SPIRIT OF IT.

SLIDE *THEIR ART & TALENT CAME FROM DEEP INSIDE THEM AND THEY FELT IT ... IT FLOWED THROUGH THEM TO PERFORM A PERFECT SCORE OF 12 SIXES TO A STANDING OVATION.*

(Nobody in ice dancing had ever achieved this before.)

LIVE OUT THE LIFE WITHIN

WE NOW ORGANICALLY DELIGHT TO DO OUR FATHER'S WILL ... HIS DESIRES HAVE BECOME OUR DESIRES.

NB: THE LAW HAS NOT BEEN REPLACED

BUT –

THE EXTERNAL LAW HAS BEEN REPLACED WITH AN INTERNAL SPIRIT

WE DON'T NEED THE EXTERNAL LAW ANYMORE

- IT'S NOW INTERNAL INSTEAD OF EXTERNAL ...
- IT'S NOW A DESIRE INSTEAD OF A DEMAND ...
- IT'S NOW OUT OF LOVE & NOT LAW
- IT'S NOW BECAUSE I WANT TO ... NOT BECAUSE I HAVE TO
- IT'S NOW FROM RELATIONSHIP NOT DICTATORSHIP

SO HOW DOES THIS WORK IN US?

WE ARE INTERNALLY DIRECTED BY LIFE TO WALK IN THE LIFE

We ought to walk in The Newness of Life (Romans 6:4)

There is a rather obscure scripture that gives us insight into how this all works inside us ...

Romans 2:14-15 NLT **SLIDE**

*... Gentiles [believers] who do not have God's written law, show that **they know His law** when **they instinctively [organically] obey it**, even without having heard it. ¹⁵They [Gentile believers] demonstrate that God's law is written in their hearts, for their own*

conscience and thoughts either accuse them or [defend them] tell them they are doing right.

Verse 14: 'they instinctively [organically] obey it' –

Instinctively = Spontaneously; of their own motion; not acting under the coercion of any external rule, but simply by the promptings of their own conscience left to itself. (Ellicott)

PAUL'S CONSCIENCE APPROVING

Romans 9:1 New American Bible

I speak the truth in Christ, I do not lie; my conscience joins with the Holy Spirit in bearing me witness.

PAUL'S CONSCIENCE DISAPPROVING

Acts 23:2-5 BSB **SLIDES x 2**

... The high priest Ananias ordered those standing near Paul to strike him on the mouth. ³Then Paul said to him, "God will strike you, you whitewashed wall! You sit here to judge me according to the law, yet you yourself violate the law by commanding that I be struck." ⁴But those standing nearby said, "How dare you insult the high priest of God!" ⁵Brothers," Paul replied, "I was not aware that he was the high priest, for it is written: 'Do not speak evil about the ruler of your people.'

LOOK AT HOW PAULS CONSCIENCE KICKED IN DISAPPROVING HIM ...

People Have called this, 'The Conviction of The Holy Spirit', but it is more accurately one's conscience kicking in for violating the standards of God.

NB The scripture came out ... without Paul having to think about it. It was an organic response from within him.

LOOK AT JESUS BEING TEMPTED BY THE DEVIL

Matthew 4:4 BSB **SLIDE**

... It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

JESUS DIDN'T HAVE TO STOP & THINK ABOUT IT ... THE WORD WRITTEN ON HIS HEART FLEW OUT OF HIM ...

Matthew 4:7 BSB

*... **It is also written:** 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'*

Matthew 4:10 Berean Literal Bible SLIDE

*... **It is written** 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him alone shall you serve.'*

NEXT WEEK: 'HAVING THE RIGHT CONSCIENCE'