

DELIVERED FROM THE BODY OF SIN AND DEATH

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Rom 7:25 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.

God gave Paul the Apostle many revelations, but one of the greatest was how Jesus has freed us from sin and death. Mankind had a problem called sins. Sins are acts that fall short of God's glory. However, sins were not the deepest problem with man. A deeper problem with man was **SIN itself**. The principle of sin and the sin nature was a deeper problem that man faced. However, this was not the full extent of man's problem! Sin brings death. The power of sin **AND** death ruled over man. The power of sin works in fallen flesh to enslave man to evil tendencies. This is a terrible affliction, but an equally vile affliction is the power of death working in man's flesh. Let's look at how Jesus freed us from both the law of sin and death.

Jesus on the cross was our covenant representative. What He did, He did for us and as us. As our representative, we were in Him when He died. When Jesus died he paid the penalty for sin which was death. [**Romans 6:23**] Death frees man from the power of sin. [**Romans 6:7**] There are no sins committed in a graveyard! A helplessly bound druggie who overdoses and dies will have no more problems with drugs! Why? Because he has died! Death frees us from the power and control of sin. It would wonderful to be able to die and get free from sin, but somehow be resurrected and walk free from sin's control! Wishful thinking you might say? This actually is the offer God the Father offers every human. Jesus died our death for us! [**Romans 6:6**] This death frees us from the power of sin and evil. It is a legal transaction that must be believed and received by faith. Our freedom from the power of sin is a legal fact. We appropriate it by knowing it and believing it! [**Romans 6:11**] Paul had a revelation of the fact that in Christ Jesus, as our representative for mankind, that our old man we inherited from Adam was assumed by Christ and was crucified in Him. [**Gal. 2:20, Romans 6:6**] Jesus took our sins into His body and He became sin. [2

Peter 2:24, 2 Cor. 5:21] Jesus shed his life blood out unto death and died in our place. Life is in the blood! [**Lev. 17:11**] His death is counted as our death! This death frees us from the power of sin! Paul had a revelation of this.

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Paul had a revelation that the old person he was as a sinner was crucified with Jesus. He was born again as a righteous child of God. However, Paul also knew that in his body the power of sin was still active and alive. Paul called his un-redeemed body a body of sin. [**Romans 6:6**] This is also called the flesh. We will have the flesh until we die. The principle and power of sin resides in our body. How can we experience victory over our body of sin, or the flesh? It is by the revelation of what happened at the cross. Jesus died on the cross as our representative. Because He died, sin has no more power over Him. Since we were in Him then His death is counted as our death therefore we are legally freed from the control and power of sin. We died out of its realm and control when we appropriated what Jesus did for us at the cross when we got saved by faith. However, to **walk free from the power of sin**, we need to appropriate what was done at the cross and in the resurrection day by day. Paul had a revelation that he died to sin and its evil control. This revelation was vital to understand, but it was not the only revelation needed to walk in victory however!

Paul understood that Jesus freed him from his body of sin, but he did not understand that he also had a body of DEATH. [**Romans 7:24**] Death entered into us through sin. [**Romans 5:12**] Because the principle of sin is in our body, so does the principle of death! Death comes through sin. ***The power of sin is a force that moves us to do evil.*** However, the power of death is different. ***The power of death kills our ability to do anything good for God according to the standard that God accepts.*** Death is not a cessation of existence but a separation or unplugging from life! If you are running a vacuum cleaner and the plug comes out of the wall, the vacuum cleaner is cut off from the life of electricity and kills the vacuum cleaner. It still exists, but it is dead! It is impossible for it to perform as it was designed to do. The same thing happened when man sinned. He got unplugged from the life of God and death is now the resident power in man's flesh! It is

impossible for man to perform as he was designed to do. Man can do human good, but it is tainted with self. Man's righteousness's are filthy rags and are sinful in God's eyes. [Isaiah 64:6] Only God's own life and nature in us can produce works that God can accept. The power of death in our body keeps us from being able to live holy as we ought. Paul knew that Jesus death dealt with the power of sin in His life, **but he thought that it was up to him to produce holy living!** Paul thanked Jesus for dying to forgive His sin, but Paul taught he was responsible to produce the Christian life and to do the good things God desires. This mistake produced the life we see in Romans 7, which was a defeated and miserable life!

Rom 7:15 For what I am doing, I do not understand. [LAW OF SIN] For what I will to do, that I do not practice; [LAW OF DEATH] but what I hate, that I do. [LAW OF SIN]

Rom 7:16 If, then, I do what I will not to do, [LAW OF SIN] I agree with the law that *it is* good.

Rom 7:17 But now, *it is* no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. [LAW OF SIN]

Rom 7:18 For 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. [LAW OF DEATH]

Rom 7:19 For the good that I will *to do*, I do not do; [LAW OF DEATH] but the evil I will not *to do*, that I practice. [LAW OF SIN]

Rom 7:20 Now if I do what I will not *to do*, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. [LAW OF SIN]

Rom 7:21 I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good.

Rom 7:22 For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man.

Rom 7:23 But 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.

Rom 7:24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

Rom 7:25 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.

If you count how many times Paul uses the word "I" it shows Paul thought it was **his responsibility** and in **his power** to live as he should for God after he was saved. However, no matter how hard Paul tried to do the right thing, He found he could not do it. Paul realized he not only

had a body of sin but also a **body of death**. The principle of death was working in Him. Again, death is not a ceasing to exist. **Death is utter weakness. Death is perfect and ultimate weakness**. In our flesh we are dead when it comes to being able to live holy as we ought. [**Romans 8:10**] The cross brought freedom from the power of sin [**evil tendencies**], but Paul had to also realize that through the cross that his body of death [**the inability to produce actions approved by God**] also was dealt with! Jesus not only took our sin into Himself and died to it, but He also took our death into Himself. When He died and was buried, He took our death there also. Our utter inability to live holy has been put away in Christ as well as the principle and power of sin! **We must have a revelation that both our body of sin AND body of death has been dealt with by the death of Jesus on the cross**. Jesus freed us from both the body of sin and death by shedding His life blood out unto death. His death freed us. His death also freed us from the Law. [**Romans 7:4**] The Law was a system where God demanded holiness from man. It was up to man to produce it! God knew man could not produce life, because they were dead in Adam! Man did not know this; therefore, God gave them the Law to show them their death [inability to produce life]. Man was never supposed to produce life. God only can produce life. Death to the Law means that we no longer are responsible to be the **producers** of the life and holiness of God, we are to **receive it and manifest it** by resting in Jesus doing **FOR** us, and His Spirit will then work powerfully in and through us! We don't technically live for God, **but we are to live from God by His Spirit in us!** We are to be recipients of His life, and manifest that life through fruit! [**Gal. 5:22-23**] Jesus came to give us the God kind of life which we as branches bear His fruit by relying Him to do the works of God **FOR** us and **IN** us. [**John 15:5**] The eternal life that was in Jesus blood was given to us at the resurrection. When we are saved this life enters our re-born spirit. However, this life does not automatically manifest in our everyday lives- in our souls and bodies. We must appropriate the life of Jesus daily. [**2 Cor. 4:10-11**] When we claim in faith that we died to sin AND death through Jesus' death on the cross, we cease from our own efforts to produce for God, then the Spirit of Jesus will begin to work in us to produce the fruit of the Spirit. It will not come through self-effort of willpower to overcome sin and to live holy. It will be a super-natural product of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, living His life for us and in us!

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus **has made me free from the law of sin and death.**

The law of the Spirit of Life that is in the blood of Jesus has freed us from the Law of ***sin AND death!*** We are freed from the power of sin that leads us to do evil, and also from death- the utter helplessness and weakness to produce holiness by our own fleshly efforts. We can trust in the working of Christ for us to experience His life empowering us to live holy by His Spirit. When we focus upon Christ, His finished work, and look to Him to do all FOR us, we will live more holy by accident than ever on purpose! When temptation to sin comes upon you, you must place your faith in Jesus handling it for you. The natural tendency in us is to try to resist it with our will power. This will only produce defeat. The only thing that defeats the power of sin and death is the death and resurrection of Jesus! Through His death on the cross He freed you from the power of sin and death. Jesus delivered us from our body of sin- [evil tendencies] and death- [our inability to live holy]- by His death on the cross. He took our sin and death to the grave and gave you His sin conquering, holy empowered life by His Spirit. It is all a gift to be believed and received by faith! You have been delivered from the body of sin and death through the life that is in the blood of Jesus!