### Romans

## Chapter 7

1Are you ignorant, brothers?  
  
I’m telling those of you who know the [Jewish] Law that the [Jewish] Law is a man’s master for as long as he’s alive!  
  
2This is the same situation as with a wife that’s bound to the law of her husband for as long as he’s alive. However, after he dies, she’s no longer under his law.  
  
3So, although she’d be condemned as an adulteress if she ever became another man’s wife while her husband is still alive... After he dies, she’s free from his law – and she isn’t an adulteress if she marries someone else.  
  
4So my brothers:  
  
You died to the Law through the body of the Anointed One, and now you belong to someone else!  
  
You’ve been ‘raised from the dead’ so that you can now produce fruitage for God!  
  
5Because, while you were fleshly, what the Law labels as sinful passions were working within you, and the fruitage they produced was death.  
  
6But now that you’ve been set free from the Law (because you’ve died to the thing that held you down), you can become slaves to something new…  
  
To a newness of spirit, and not to some old writings anymore!  
  
  
7So what should we say… That the Law is sinful?  
  
May that never be true!  
  
For I’d never have known what sin was, were it not for the Law.  
  
For example, I wouldn’t have known what envy was – if it weren’t the Law that said:  
  
 ‘You must not envy.’ [Exodus 20:17]  
  
8However, when I learned about this sin from the Commandment, it created every sort of envy [in me]. Yet before the Law arrived, [this wasn’t] a sin.  
  
9Actually, I once lived without the Law... But after I came under its Commandments, sin came to life and I ‘died.’  
  
10Therefore, I found that the Commandments that were supposed to lead me to life, led me to death… 11For the sins that I learned about in the Commandments seduced me and killed me.  
  
12Nevertheless, the Law and the Commandments are still holy, righteous, and good.  
  
  
13So what was it that killed me?  
  
Was it the thing that was good for me?  
  
May that never be true!  
  
Rather, it is the sin –when it was exposed as sin by what’s good for me– that [led me to] death… For the Commandments abundantly show that sin is condemned!Rather, it is the sin –when it was exposed as sin by what’s good for me– that [led me to] death… For the Commandments abundantly show that sin is condemned!<sup class="difference">[Syr]  
  
14And this is because the Law is spiritual, while I’m fleshly and sold into sin.  
  
15So I really didn’t understand what I was doing… For I didn’t do the things that I wanted to do, and I didn’t like the things I was doing.  
  
16And despite the fact that I still do what I don’t want to do, I say that the [Jewish] Law is good.  
  
17Even though I’m no longer under [the Jewish Law], sin is still dwelling within me.  
  
18Now I know that nothing that’s dwelling within me (in this flesh) is any good... For even though I want to do what’s right, I don’t always have the will to do it!  
  
19So I don’t do the good things that I want to do... I still do bad things.  
  
20Therefore, if I’m doing things that I don’t want to do, I’m really not in charge [of my body]… The sin that dwells there is!  
  
21So although I want to obey the [Jewish] Law and do good things, badness is always here with me.  
  
22And even though the man who I am on the inside really enjoys the Law of God... 23My body parts are obeying a different law – and they’re at war with the law of my mind! They drag me into the laws of sin that are there in my body parts.  
  
24O what a miserable person I am!  
  
Who’ll save me from this dying body?  
  
25But thanks to God (through our Lord Jesus the Anointed), even though I’m a slave to sin’s law in my flesh, I’m still a slave to God’s Law in my mind!