

The Necessity of Death

Romans 7:1-13

Introduction

I The Law's Authority Illustrated

- A. The Law has authority only over the _____
- B. The Law's _____ authority illustrated:
 - 1. A married woman is _____ by the law
 - a. As long as her husband is alive - 1 Cor 7:39a
 - b. And is guilty of adultery if she remarries - Lk 16:18
 - 2. A widowed woman is _____ from the law
 - a. If her husband dies
 - b. And is free to marry another - 1 Cor 7:39

II The Law's Authority Applied

- A. Our relationship to the Law because of Christ
 - 1. We died to the law through Christ - Gal 3:23-25; Rom 6:6
 - a. That we might _____ to another; Christ
 - b. That we might bear _____ to God - Gal 5:22-23; Eph 2:10
- B. Our relationship to the Law before conversion
 - 1. We were _____ by the sinful nature - Gal 5:24
 - 2. Our sinful passions were aroused by the law - Rom 6:13
 - 3. We bore the fruit of _____ - Rom 6:23
- C. Our relationship to the Law after conversion
 - 1. We have _____ to what once bound us - Rom 7:4
 - 2. We have been _____ from the Law
 - a. To serve in the _____ way of the Spirit - Rom 2:29
 - b. Not in the _____ way of the written code - 2 Cor 3:6

III The Law's Authority Reiterated

- A. Is the law sin? NO!
- B. Rather, the law _____ the sinfulness of sin - Rom 3:20
 - 1. Paul's response to the law of coveting
 - a. Sin seized the opportunity afforded by the law
 - b. The law produced every kind of coveting
 - c. Apart from the law, sin is dead - Rom 4:15
 - 2. Paul's response to the law in general

- a. Prior to the law, Paul was alive apart from the law
- b. After the law, sin sprang to life and Paul died
- c. The law brought death instead of life because:
 - 1. Sin seized the opportunity
 - 2. Sin _____ me - 2 Cor 11:3; 1 Tim 2:14
 - 3. Sin put me to death

IV The Law's Authority Affirmed

- A. The _____ of the Law affirmed
 - 1. The Law is holy
 - 2. The Law is _____ - Gal 3:21
 - 3. The Law is good - 1 Tim 1:8
- B. The _____ of the Law affirmed
 - 1. It makes sin _____
 - 2. It produces death in us - Rom 6:23
 - 3. It makes sin utterly _____

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- 1. Have you ever been in trouble with the law? What happened?
- 2. How does Paul use marriage to illustrate the believers' relationship to the law? Do you feel more "married" to the living Christ or to some religious code?
- 3. According to Rom 7:4, what is the goal of being united with Christ? How would you describe the fruit in your life? What could you do to become a more fruitful Christian?
- 4. Why do you think God's Law was given to us? 1) As a means of salvation 2) As a guide to follow once we are saved by grace 3) As an impossible hurdle to point us to God's grace. [Hint: Read Rom 3:19-20; 5:20; 7:10, 12, 20; Gal 3:20-25]
- 5. Describe from personal experience the difference between "serving in the new way of the Spirit" vs. "in the old way of the written code". Which best describes your experience now?
- 6. Take a moment to thank God for the Law and the positive impact it has had in your life in leading you to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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