



The Battle From Within

Title: The Battle From Within **Date:** January 12, 2025
Part 1

Text: Romans 7:14-25

Romans 7:14–25 For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin. 15 For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate. 16 But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good. 17 So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. 18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not. 19 For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.

20 But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. 21 I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. 22 For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, 23 but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

The long standing debate.

Romans 7:14–25 For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of **flesh**, sold into bondage to sin.

“For”

“of flesh”

Romans 7:5 For while we were ***in the flesh***, the sinful passions, which were aroused by the Law, were at work in the members of our body to bear fruit for ***death***.

“sold into bondage to sin”

Our source of sin

- (17) “sin which dwells in me”
- (18) “in me” “in my flesh”
- (20) “in me”
- (21) “in me”
- (23) “in the members of my body”
“in my members”
- (24) “body of this death”
- (25) “with my flesh”

Our new divine nature

- (16) “I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good”
- (17) “No longer am I the one doing it”
- (18) “the willing is present in me”
- (19) “the good that I want”
- (21) “wants to do good”
- (22) “joyfully concurs with the Law of God”
- (23) “the law of my mind”

15 For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate.

16 But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good.

James 3:5 So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire!

Paul's attitude of himself as a Pharisee

Philippians 3:6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, **found blameless.**

17 So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.

“ I ”

“sin”

18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not. 19 For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.

“In my flesh”

20 But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.

21 I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good.

“principle” - A common, continual universal reality

We perceive ourselves to be sinners in direct

_____ **as we perceive**
the holiness of God and His Word.

Genesis 4:7 “If you do well, will not your countenance be lifted up? And if you do not do well, **sin is crouching at the door;** and its desire is for you, but you must master it.”

22 For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man,

23 but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.

Galatians 6:9 Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not **grow weary**.

24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?

“set free” [rhuomai]

25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Romans 8:22–23 For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. 23 And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

25b So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

Implication

Let's get _____

Discussion Guide

1. Why do you believe Christians are not honest about their own sinfulness?
2. What evidences do you see that prove Paul was saved? Take that list and build a profile of what characterizes true believers.
3. What does it mean that believers are “sold into bondage to sin” and what does that look like in your Christian experience?
4. How did God’s word affect you today and how will it change the way you live?

ANSWERS: proportion, real