

FREEDOM FROM LAW [How Faith Grows -- (I)]

Romans 7:1-25
Key Verse: 7:25a

Lesson 7

* AN ILLUSTRATION FROM MARRIAGE (1-6)

1. To whom is Paul speaking in these verses? What is the absolute the limit of the law's authority?
2. How is one set free from the law of marriage? Whose death sets the Christian free from the law? What is the purpose of our being set free from the law?
3. With whom is our new union? What is its fruit? How is this fruit different from the fruit we bore when we were under the law? What other differences are there in these 2 unions?
4. What does the illustration from marriage teach us about the importance of commitment? Why is commitment necessary for fruitfulness? Why do you think Paul used the illustration from marriage to teach us about the relationship between Christ and the Christian?

* PAUL'S STRUGGLE (7:7-24)

5. Is the law sinful? (7,12) What is the function of the law? (7,13; 3:20; Gal 3:24)
6. Over which of the 10 commandments did Paul stumble? How is this commandment different from the others? How is it related to the others?
7. Why did he say that the commandment brought death to him? (see Eph 2:1; Col 2:13; Jn 5:24) How is this death different from that in verse 4?
8. What is the human condition of all men since Adam? (14) What is the struggle that goes on inside one who wants to do good? Why? (14-20)
9. Read verses 21-24,25b. Why does Paul cry out that he is a wretched man? (21-24)

* JESUS CHRIST, THE ONLY SAVIOR (25)

10. What is the only way out of this defeated situation? What is Paul's cause for joy and thanksgiving? What can we learn here?
11. What does this chapter teach us about struggle in the Christian life, and how Christians grow?