

Questions on Romans 7

1. When Paul describes (7:1-3) the situation of a married woman, what point is he making?
2. What does Paul mean when he says, “You have died to the law through the body of Christ” (7:4)?
3. How does our new position in Christ enable us to “serve in the new way of the Spirit” as we were not able to “in the old way of the written code” (7:6)?
4. How does the new position and identity that Paul describes relate to God’s promise in Jeremiah 31:31-34?
5. What Paul has said about the law might lead his readers to conclude that he thought the law itself was sinful, so he clarifies his position in 7:7-12. What is Paul’s perspective on the law? What is the source of sin, if not the law?
6. How is Paul’s message in Gal. 3:10-22 similar?
7. In 7:7-12, Paul describes an experience with the law and sin. Whose experience, and when, is he portraying?
8. In 7:13-23, Paul’s description of the struggle with sin seems to indicate two natures or wills — two “I”s. What are these two identities? What is their relationship to each other? How are they active? Who, and when, has this struggle?
9. How does Paul’s argument lead to the conclusion that “there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ”?
10. Read Romans 8:1-17 and Colossians 3:1-4 (also 3:5-17 for application). How can those who trust in Jesus overcome the deadly power of sin?