

Paul is addressing in verse one "those who know the law" who must have been putting a great deal of trust in it to save them. Paul then starts to explain the purpose of the Law.

THE LAW HAS DOMINION OVER ALL OF MANKIND Vs 1-6

1. EXAMPLE : vs2, 3 of marriage
2. Look at the ' *her*' as the church. See Jeremiah 3:1 cp. V 6 "backsliding Israel has done, She played the harlot. V.14 "Return, O backsliding children, Says the LORD; for I am married to you..."
3. This was a prophecy given by God through Jeremiah which was latter penned as Holy Scripture and was read in the synagogues in Paul's day so the Roman Jews knew these verses.
4. We "have become dead to the law through the body of Christ." Those "Christians" today, who try to be religious, do good things as a sign of their righteousness to please Father God - it is hopeless.
5. Married to another - fused to another, v.4
6. Purpose being: "that we should bear fruit to God
 - a. People are called Fruit, Genesis 30:2; Deuteronomy 28:4; Psalms 127:3 "Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb is a reward;" Proverbs 11:30 "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise." Matthew 7:17 "Even so , every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit," V20 "therefore by their fruits [plural] you will know them."
 - b. Fruit of the Spirit Galatians 5:22 – 26
 1. Crucified the flesh , v.24
 2. Live and walk in the Spirit, v.25
7. Sinful Passions not God-given passions, V5
8. WE HAVE BEEN DELIVERED from the law v.6

THE LAW SIN AT WORK V. 7-12

EXAMPLE: If there is no speed limit there is no conscience of wrong doing but once a speed limit is posted our conscience comes alive because of the law. We must choose at this point which law are we going to obey.

1. The Law points out the magnitude of sin, v.13
2. Sold under sin or slave of sin, v. 14
NOTE: the human flesh is neutral it is not evil as some have taught so they hate themselves. The flesh here is the weakness of the flesh apart from God.
3. Two laws at work in us. Vs.22, 23 warring over us. Example: the flu and antibodies
4. The heart cry which will always be answered by God, v.24 The voice of despair.
5. V 25 is a difficult verse of scripture and badly used by those who want to sin. Their argument is I know God and I acknowledge Him and He knows my flesh is weak so He receives me as a sinner.

THE FINAL WORD is found in Romans 8:1, 2 we are free from the law of sin and death.