



# The Book of Romans

## How to be Right with God

(Romans 7:13-25)

# Romans 1-11, Theme: Justification!

## Five Cycles:

- 1: The Universal Need of Justification, 1:18-3:20
- 2: The Only Means of Justification: Faith! 3:21-4:25
3. Benefits of Justification, 5:1-7:25
4. More Benefits of Justification, especially  
“security!”, 8:1-39
5. Application to Israel of these Benefits, 9:1-11:36.

# Each “CYCLE” has 2 parts...

1. Presentation of the topic
2. Hypophora: Posing and answering potential questions regarding the topic.

# Romans 1-11, Theme: Justification!

## Cycle 1:

### The Universal Need of Justification, 1:18-3:20

- Presented, 1:18-2:29
- Hypophora, 3:1-20.

# Romans 1-11, Theme: Justification!

Cycle 2:

The Only Means of Justification: FAITH, 3:21-4:25

- Presented, 3:21-26.
- Hypophora, 3:27-4:25.

# Romans 1-11, Theme: Justification!

## Cycle 3: Benefits of our Justification, 5:1-7:25

- Presented, 5:1-21
- Hypophora, 6:1-7:25!

## Cycle 3: Benefits of our Justification, 5:1-7:25

- Hypophora, 6:1-7:25...4 Questions!
  1. 6:1, “Shall we sin so that grace may increase?” **“May it never be!”**
  2. 6:15, “Shall we sin because we are not under Law?” **“May it never be!”**
  3. 7:7, “Is the Law sin?” **“May it never be!”**
  4. 7:13, “Did that which is good become a cause of death for me?” **“May it never be!”**

## Important “Definitions”

“The Sin”...(Sin): That evil force that lives in these mortal bodies with us, since the Fall, that tempts us to commit acts of sin. It is one of the enemies of the believer.

Also known as “The Flesh”

The unbeliever is a slave to The Sin



Then is the Law sin???, 7:7-12

**May it never be!**

- The Law Reveals The Sin, 7:7.
- The Law Provokes The Sin, 7:8.
- The Law Revives The Sin, 7:9.
- The Sin uses The Law to produce “death,”  
7:10-11.

Recall 7:5!

Romans 7:5

The Unbeliever  
“In The Flesh”

This is Paul’s theological  
explanation in 7:5.

THE LAW

This is Paul’s  
personal  
experience in  
7:7-11

Sinful passions  
Aroused!

Bear Fruit For Death

Then is the Law sin???, 7:7-12

**May it never be!**

- The Law Reveals The Sin, 7:7.
- The Law Provokes The Sin, 7:8.
- The Law Revives The Sin, 7:9.
- The Sin uses The Law to produce “death,”  
7:10-11.

**But it can never produce righteousness!!**

Unsaved Saul of Tarsus  
could never achieve righteousness  
by means of the Law!!

**AND NEITHER COULD YOU!!!**

**“For by grace you have been saved,  
through faith...!”**

Romans 7:13-25.

Is the man of Romans 7:13-25  
a believer  
or an unbeliever???

## Arguments for Romans 7:13-25 describing Paul's life as a believer:

1. It “sounds like” what many believers experience, e.g., v. 18.
2. Paul uses the personal pronoun, “I.”
3. Paul switches to the present tense.
4. Paul agrees with the Law, which an unsaved man would not do, v. 22.
5. Paul refers to his “inner man,” v. 22.

Arguments for Romans 7:13-25 describing  
Paul's life as a believer:

What do these 5 arguments ignore?

**THE CONTEXT!!!**

They ignore the development of Paul's  
argument leading up to Romans 7:13!!

**PROFOUND THOUGHT:**

**Romans 7:13-25 follows Romans 7:7-12!!**

Arguments for Romans 7:13-25 describing  
Paul's life as an unbeliever:

**1. THE CONTEXT!** The question in v. 13, and  
the subsequent answer and explanation  
follow directly the discussion in 7:7-12!

The "death" of v. 13 and v. 24 is the  
"death" of 7:9, 10, 11, and 7:5.

The Law did not cause the "death,"  
The Sin did!



Arguments for Romans 7:13-25 describing  
Paul's life as an unbeliever:

2. The man in 7:14 is "of flesh"  $\leftrightarrow$  "Sarkinos," meaning "made of flesh." That's all he was...flesh! "Carnal" is misleading.

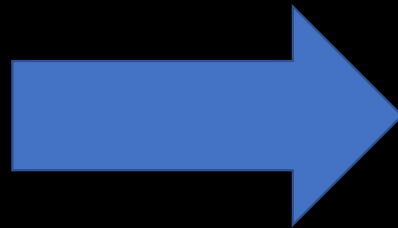
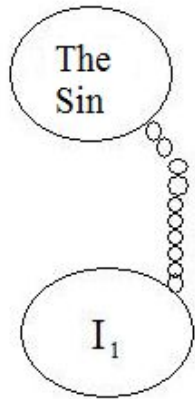
Arguments for Romans 7:13-25 describing  
Paul's life as an unbeliever:

3. The man in 7:14 is "sold into bondage to  
The Sin."

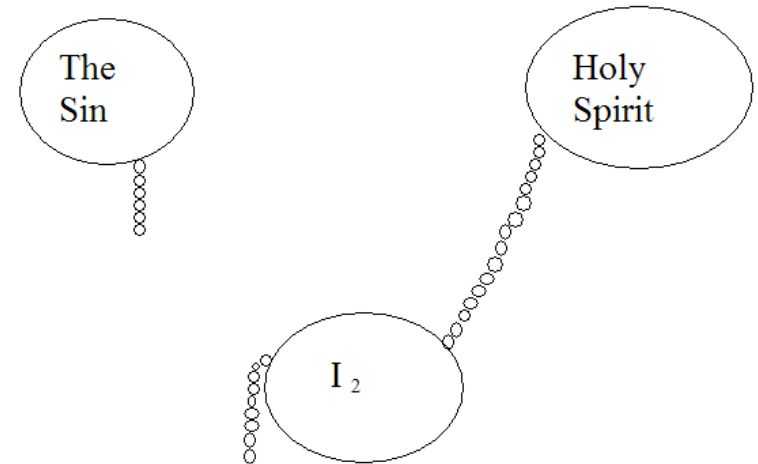
Recall what happened at salvation!!!

# “A Biblical View of Salvation”

Unbeliever



Believer



Romans 6:17-18; 20-22.

Arguments for Romans 7:13-25 describing  
Paul's life as an unbeliever:

3. The man in 7:14 is "sold into bondage to  
The Sin."

Recall what happened at salvation!!!

The believer is freed from slavery to

The Sin at Salvation!

This CANNOT be a believer!

Arguments for Romans 7:13-25 describing  
Paul's life as an unbeliever:

4. The man in 7:23-24 is a "wretched man," a "prisoner of the law of The Sin in his members.

Jesus promised "abundant life,"  
(John 10:10),  
not wretched slavery!

Arguments for Romans 7:13-25 describing  
Paul's life as an unbeliever:

5. Romans 8:1 finally gives the victory...  
freedom from condemnation, "for those  
who are in Christ Jesus."

There is nothing **BUT CONDEMNATION**  
in Romans 7:14-24!

**But the believer is free from condemnation!**

My conclusion...

Based primarily on the CONTEXT of Romans 7  
And the development of Paul's argument in the  
hypophora section of this 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle,  
Is that Romans 7:13-15 describes Paul's  
frustrated, defeated life as a Jewish man trying  
to achieve justification by the works of the Law,  
and failing miserably.

# Romans 7:13-25 “Three ‘Rounds’ of Despair!”

Each “round” follows the same progression...

- Paul’s State of Utter Sinfulness:
- Paul’s Inability to Do the Good Law of God:
- Paul’s Constant Performance of Evil:
- Paul’s Bondage to The Sin:



# Romans 7:13-25 “Three ‘Rounds’ of Despair!”

## ROUND 1: vv. 14-17

- Paul’s State of Utter Sinfulness: 14
- Paul’s Inability to Do the Good Law of God: 15a
- Paul’s Constant Performance of Evil: 15b-16
- Paul’s Bondage to The Sin: 17

# Romans 7:13-25 “Three ‘Rounds’ of Despair!”

## ROUND 2: vv. 18-20

- Paul’s State of Utter Sinfulness: 18a
- Paul’s Inability to Do the Good Law of God: 18b
- Paul’s Constant Performance of Evil: 19
- Paul’s Bondage to The Sin: 20.

# Romans 7:13-25 “Three ‘Rounds’ of Despair!”

## ROUND 3: vv. 21-24

- Paul’s State of Utter Sinfulness: 21
- Paul’s Inability to Do the Good Law of God: 22-23a
- Paul’s Constant Performance of Evil: 23b
- Paul’s Bondage to The Sin: 24

## Romans 7:25

Paul's parenthetical outburst of thanksgiving to God  
Paul's parting summation of his struggle with sin.

## The Misery of The Unsaved

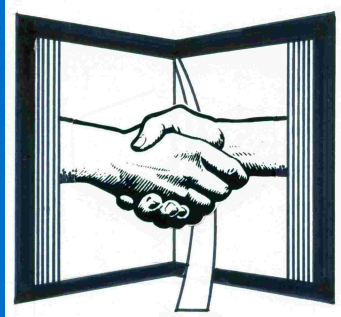
- He is only of flesh!
- He is a slave to The Sin!
- He is confused about life and himself!
- He is bothered by a guilty conscience!
- He agrees that the Law is good, but he doesn't keep it.
- He is aware of a war within, but he is a prisoner of that war!
- He reaches a point of helpless despair!

## God's provision for victory over the Sin...

- Romans 6:18, 22.
- Romans 8:2
- 1 Corinthians 10:13
- Galatians 5:16
- Ephesians 3:20-21
- Philippians 4:13
- 2 Peter 1:3

Romans 7:13-25...what difference does it make?

- 1.The difference of Scripture...what was Paul saying?
- 2.The difference of salvation...what actually occurred?
- 3.The difference of perspective...how do you see yourself?
- 4.The difference of power...is there any hope of living in victory over sin?
- 5.The difference of hope...the guy in Romans 7 is hopeless.



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