

# Romans

The Law and Sin ([Romans 7:7-25](#))

**Read: The Law and Sin (7:7-25)**

**Explain: The Law and Sin (7:7-25)**

Are there any literary/structural observations?

What do the words mean?

**7 What then shall we say** [future active indicative]? **That the law** [*nomos*] **is sin** [offense, sin]? **By no means** [second aorist active optative (possibility (more remotely possible than subjunctive)); to become, to come into existence, begin to be, receive being; same phrase used in [Romans 3:4, 6, 31; 6:2, 15; 7:7, 13; 9:14; 11:1, 11](#)! **Yet if it had not been for** [*dia*] **the law** [*nomos*], **I would not have known** [*ginosko*; second aorist active indicative; allow, be aware of, feel, known, perceive, be resolved, speak, be sure, understand] **sin** [offense, sin]. **For I would not have known** [*eido*; pluperfect active indicative; to know, be aware, behold, consider, look, perceive, be sure, understand] **what it is to covet** [longing, concupiscence, desire, lust] **if the law** [*nomos*] **had not said** [imperfect active indicative], **"You shall not covet** [future active indicative; set the heart upon, long for, covet, desire, lust after]." **8 But sin** [offense, sin], **seizing** [second aorist active participle; accepting, attaining, bringing, catching, having, holding, obtaining, receiving, taking] **an opportunity** [starting point, an opportunity, occasion] **through** [*dia*] **the commandment** [commandment, precept], **produced** [aorist active indicative; worked fully, accomplished, finished, fashioned, caused, performed, worked out] **in me all kinds of covetousness** [longing, concupiscence, desire, lust; same word used in [Romans 7:7](#)]. **For apart** [at a space from, separately, apart, beside, by itself, without] **from the law** [*nomos*], **sin** [offense, sin] **lies dead**. **9 I was once alive** [imperfect active indicative] **apart from the law** [*nomos*], **but when the commandment** [commandment, precept; same word used in [Romans 7:8](#)] **came** [second aorist active participle], **sin** [offense, sin] **came alive** [aorist active indicative; recovered life, lived again, revived] **and I died** [second aorist active indicative; has died off, is dead, died, lies a-dying, is slain; same word used in [Romans 6:2, 7, 8, 9, 10](#) (twice), [7:2, 3, 6](#)]. **10 The very commandment** [commandment, precept; same word used in [Romans 7:8, 9](#)] **that promised life proved** [aorist middle indicative; found, got, obtained, perceived, saw] **to be death to me**. **11 For sin** [offense, sin], **seizing** [second aorist active participle;

accepting, attaining, bringing, catching, having, holding, obtaining, receiving, taking; same word used in **Romans 7:7**] **an opportunity** [starting point, an opportunity, occasion; same word used in **Romans 7:8**] **through** [*dia*] **the commandment** [commandment, precept; same word used in **Romans 7:8, 9, 10**], **deceived** [seduced wholly, beguiled, deceived] **me and through** [*dia*] **it killed** [aorist active indicative; put to death, killed, slayed] **me**. **12 So** [so too, thus therefore, insomuch, so then] **the law** [*nomos*] **is holy** [sacred, pure, consecrated, holy, saint], **and the commandment** [commandment, precept; same word used in **Romans 7:8, 9, 10, 11**] **is holy** [sacred, pure, consecrated, holy, saint; same word used earlier in **Romans 7:12**] **and righteous** [equitable, innocent, holy, just, meet, righteous] **and good** [benefit, good, well].

**13 Did that which is good** [benefit, good, well; same word used in **Romans 7:12**], **then, bring** [second aorist active indicative] **death to me? By no means** [second aorist active optative (possibility (more remotely possible than subjunctive)); to become, to come into existence, begin to be, receive being; same phrase used in **Romans 3:4, 6, 31; 6:2, 15; 7:7, 13; 9:14; 11:1, 11**]! **It was sin** [offense, sin], **producing** [present middle participle; working fully, accomplishing, finishing, fashioning, causing, doing, performing, working out; worked fully, accomplished, finished, fashioned, caused, done, performed, worked out; same word used in **Romans 7:8**] **death in me through** [*dia*] **what is good** [benefit, good, well; same word used in **Romans 7:12** and earlier in **Romans 7:13**], **in order that sin** [offense, sin] **might be shown** [second aorist middle subjunctive; shown, appeared, seemed, shined] **to be sin** [offense, sin], **and through** [*dia*] **the commandment** [commandment, precept; same word used in **Romans 7:8, 9, 10, 11, 12**] **might become** [second aorist active subjunctive] **sinful beyond measure** [throwing beyond others, supereminence, abundance, far more exceeding, excellency, more excellent, beyond measure]. **14 For we know** [*eido*; perfect active indicative; to know, be aware, behold, consider, look, perceive, be sure, understand; same word used in **Romans 7:7**] **that the law** [*nomos*] **is** [present middle indicative] **spiritual** [non-carnal, ethereal, supernatural, spiritual; same word used in **Romans 1:11**], **but I am** [present middle indicative] **of the flesh** [fleshly, flesh], **sold** [perfect middle participle; trafficked, disposed as merchandise into slavery, sold] **under sin** [offense, sin]. **15 For I do** [present middle indicative; work fully, accomplish, finish, fashion, cause, do, perform, work out; same word used in **Romans 7:8, 13**] **not understand** [*ginosko*; present active indicative; allow, be aware of, feel, known, perceive, be resolved, speak, be sure, understand] **my own actions**. **For I do not do** [present active indicative; perform repeatedly, habitually, execute, accomplish, collect, fare, commit, deeds, do, exact, keep, require, use arts] **what I want** [present active indicative; determine, choose, prefer, wish, inclined, be about, delight in, desire, intend, list, love, mean, please, will], **but I do** [present active indicative] **the very thing I hate** [present active indicative; detest, love less, hate]. **16 Now if I do** [present active indicative] **what I do not want**

[present active indicative; determine, choose, prefer, wish, inclined, be about, delight in, desire, intend, list, love, mean, please, will; same word used in [Romans 7:15](#)], **I agree** [present middle indicative; say jointly, assent to, consent to] **with the law** [*nomos*], **that it is good** [beautiful, good, valuable, virtuous, better, fair, good, honest, meet, well, worthy]. **17 So now** [just now, now] **it is no longer I who do** [present middle indicative; work fully, accomplish, finish, fashion, cause, do, perform, work out; same word used in [Romans 7:8, 13, 15](#)] **it, but sin** [offense, sin] **that dwells** [occupies a house, resides, cohabits] **within me**. **18 For I know** [*eido*; perfect active indicative; to know, be aware, behold, consider, look, perceive, be sure, understand; same word used in [Romans 7:7, 14](#)] **that nothing good** [benefit, good, well; same word used in [Romans 7:12, 13](#) (twice)] **dwells** [present active indicative; occupies a house, resides, cohabits; same word used in [Romans 7:17](#)] **in me, that is** [present middle indicative], **in my flesh**. **For I have** [present middle indicative; lies near, be at hand, be present] **the desire** [present active infinitive; determine, choose, prefer, wish, inclined, be about, delight in, desire, intend, list, love, mean, please, will; same word used in [Romans 7:15, 16](#)] **to do what is right** [beautiful, good, valuable, virtuous, better, fair, good, honest, meet, well, worthy; same word used in [Romans 7:16](#)], **but not the ability** [present middle infinitive; work fully, accomplish, finish, fashion, cause, do, perform, work out; same word used in [Romans 7:8, 13, 15, 17](#)] **to carry it out**. **19 For I do not do** [present active indicative] **the good** [benefit, good, well; same word used in [Romans 7:12, 13](#) (twice), [18](#)] **I want** [present active indicative; determine, choose, prefer, wish, inclined, be about, delight in, desire, intend, list, love, mean, please, will; same word used in [Romans 7:15, 16, 18](#)], **but the evil** [worthless, depraved, bad, evil, harm, ill, noisome, wicked] **I do not want** [present active indicative; determine, choose, prefer, wish, inclined, be about, delight in, desire, intend, list, love, mean, please, will; same word used in [Romans 7:15, 16, 18, 19](#) (twice)], **is what I keep on doing** [present active indicative; perform repeatedly, habitually, execute, accomplish, collect, fare, commit, deeds, do, exact, keep, require, use arts; same word used in [Romans 7:15](#)]. **20 Now if I do** [present active indicative] **what I do not want** [present active indicative; determine, choose, prefer, wish, inclined, be about, delight in, desire, intend, list, love, mean, please, will; same word used in [Romans 7:15, 16, 18, 19](#) (twice)], **it is no longer I who do** [present middle indicative; work fully, accomplish, finish, fashion, cause, do, perform, work out; same word used in [Romans 7:8, 13, 15, 17, 18](#)] **it, but sin** [offense, sin] **that dwells** [present active participle; occupies a house, resides, cohabits; same word used in [Romans 7:17, 18](#)] **within me**.

**21 So I find** [present active indicative; find, get, obtain, perceive, see] **it to be a law** [*nomos*] **that when I want** [present active participle; determine, choose, prefer, wish, inclined, be about, delight in, desire, intend, list, love, mean, please, will; same word used in [Romans 7:15, 16, 18, 19](#) (twice), [20](#)] **to do** [present active infinitive] **right**

[beautiful, good, valuable, virtuous, better, fair, good, honest, meet, well, worthy; same word used in [Romans 7:16, 18](#)], **evil** [worthless, depraved, bad, evil, harm, ill, noisome, wicked; same word used in [Romans 7:19](#)] **lies close** [present middle indicative; lies near, be at hand, be present; same word used in [Romans 7:18](#)] **at hand. 22 For I delight** [present middle indicative; rejoice within oneself, feel satisfaction concerning, delight] **in the law** [*nomos*] **of God, in my inner** [inside, inward, inner] **being, 23 but I see** [present active indicative; look, behold, beware, lie, look on, perceive, regard, see, take heed] **in my members** [limbs, members] **another** [other, different] **law** [*nomos*] **waging war** [present middle participle; attacking, destroying, warring against] **against the law** [*nomos*] **of my mind** [intellect, mind, understanding] **and making me captive** [present active participle; leading away captive, making captive, bringing into captivity] **to the law** [*nomos*] **of sin** [offense, sin] **that dwells in** [present middle participle] **my members** [limbs, members]. **24 Wretched** [enduring trials, miserable, wretched] **man that I am! Who will deliver** [future active indicative; rescue, deliver (through the idea of a current)] **me from this body of death? 25 Thanks** [*charis*; graciousness, acceptable, benefit, favor, gift, gracious, grace, joy, liberality, pleasure, thanks, thankworthy; same word used multiple times in [Romans](#)] **be to God through** [*dia*] **Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve** [*douleuo*; present active indicative; be a slave, be in bondage, do service] **the law** [*nomos*] **of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law** [*nomos*] **of sin** [offense, sin].

Are there any repeated words?

Are there any repeated topics?

Next week we will do observations, applications, and personalizations of this same text.

## Homework

Resources (our helps—order matters)

- Holy Spirit
- Bible: [Romans](#) (ESV)
- Church: [bit.ly/FlemingSS](http://bit.ly/FlemingSS)
- Tools: [bit.ly/romans2017](http://bit.ly/romans2017)

Our process

- Ask (the Holy Spirit for help)
- Read ([Romans](#))
- Talk (about [Romans](#)—[bit.ly/romans2017group](http://bit.ly/romans2017group))
- Send (feedback to [jim314@yahoo.com](mailto:jim314@yahoo.com) by Wed)