

**Lesson 12**  
**Vindication of the Law**  
**( Romans 7:7-25 )**

• **Questions**

1. What is the first question Paul asks and answers in this section (7:7)?
  
2. What purpose does law serve with respect to sin (7:7)?
  
3. What relationship does sin have with respect to law (7:8)?
  
4. What did law provide to Paul with respect to sin (7:9-11)?
  
5. What is the answer to Paul's first question? What is Paul's conclusion concerning law (7:12)?
  
6. What is the second question that Paul asks and answers in this section (7:13)?
  
7. What does law show with respect to sin (7:13)?
  
8. What is the answer to Paul's second question? What does Paul desire to do and what does he actually do (7:14-16)?
  
9. Why does Paul act the way he does (7:17-23)?

10. What cry of anguish does Paul offer up (7:24)?

11. Who will answer Paul's cry (7:25)?

12. What conclusion does Paul make to his life in relationship to law and sin (7:25)?

• **Digging Deeper**

1. How does Romans 7:7-25 relate to Romans 7:5?

2. Is the description of Paul's life in Romans 7:7-25 taken from his life before his conversion to Christ, or after his conversion?

3. What Old Testament scripture is quoted in 7:7?

4. How is John Calvin's doctrine of "Total Depravity" refuted by 7:9?

5. What does "*carnal*" and "*sold under sin*" mean (7:14)?

6. When Paul says twice, "it is no more I that do it, but sin which dwells in me" (7:17,20), is he saying that he cannot keep himself from sinning? Is he saying that he no longer has a free will and that he is not responsible for his sin? (To help formulate your answer, compare the opposite condition found in Galatians 2:20: "it is no longer I that live...")

7. Identify the following:

“the law” (7:7; 8:3-4) –

“the law of God” (7:22,25; 8:7) –

“the law of my mind” (7:23) –

“the law of sin” (7:23,25; 8:2) –

“the law of the Spirit of life” (8:2) –

• **Applications for Today**

1. Sin is defined by God’s law, not by modern society (7:7).
2. God’s law does not make us sin. God’s law is holy, righteous, good, and spiritual in every way (7:12).
3. One may desire with the mind to do what is right, but fail to do right because he gives into the desires of the flesh (7:22-23).
4. What can one do who desires to do what is right, but finds himself giving into the desires of the flesh?
5. There is a “war” that goes on within each individual – a fight or battle between good and evil (7:23).
6. Obedience to Jesus Christ is the answer to the sin problem (7:24-25).