

Welcome to the Worship Celebration of



SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED

New LIFE Fellowship Announcements:

LIFE GROUP – this week at 6:30 pm

Wed. evening @ the Thomas'

→ End Time Prophecy Series ...



**Let's Prepare Our Hearts to Worship
our HOLY and AWESOME GOD**

Now let's Listen to God's Holy Word →



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The Law And A Young Pharisee

Today we will look at a Young Pharisee - his personal testimony about his relationship with the LAW of God and being confronted with his own sinful depravity in Romans 7 ... this is Paul speak about what lead him to Christ



The Law And A Young Pharisee

Romans 7:1-25

Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives? ² For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband. ³ So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man.

The Law And A Young Pharisee

Romans 7:1-25

⁴ Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another — to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God. ⁵ For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death. ⁶ But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and NOT in the oldness of the letter.

The Law And A Young Pharisee

So just we were Crucified in Christ ... our OLD Sinful Nature was Crucified when Christ was Crucified on the Cross... in the same way ... we died to the power of the Law over us, when we died with Christ, as well ... were FREED from the Penalty of Sin Because of the Law's Power over us because of our sin.

Notice how the Law Aroused our Sinful Passions when we were NOT Saved (when we were "IN the FLESH") ... which lead us to death (we were dead in our sins before God ... before we came to Christ)

The Law And A Young Pharisee

To illustrate this Truth ...

Paul is going to give us his Personal Testimony of being a nice young Pharisee, law keeper in a nice, very devout Jewish Home ... BEFORE Paul was saved.

He want to show us how the Law was a Schoolmaster (Galatians 3:24-25) that lead him to Christ. He wants to show us how a person who tries to please God, follow God's Law all in his/her own strength, while he/she is still a lost sinner outside of Christ, how that always leads to failures and even more sin and "cover up", etc ... faking it until you make it ... just won't work ...

The Law And A Young Pharisee

Romans 7:1-25 (continued)

⁷ What shall we say then? Is the law sin? **Certainly not!** On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, “You shall not covet.” ⁸ But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in ME all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law **SIN WAS DEAD.** ⁹ I was alive **ONCE** without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I **DIED.** ¹⁰ And the commandment, which was to bring life (its purpose was aimed and designed by God to bring life), I found to bring death. ¹¹ For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, **deceived ME**, and by it **killed ME.** ¹² Therefore the law is **holy**, and the commandment **holy and just and good.**

The Law And A Young Pharisee

Romans 7:1-25 (continued)

¹³ Has then what is good become death to **ME**? Certainly not! But **sin**, that it might appear **sin**, was producing **death** in **ME** through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful. ¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin. ¹⁵ For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. ¹⁶ If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good. ¹⁷ But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in **ME**. ¹⁸ For I know that in **ME** (that is, in my flesh [**my old sinful nature**]) nothing good dwells; for to **will** is present with **ME**, but **how to perform what is good** I do not find. ¹⁹ For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. ²⁰ Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in **ME**.

The Law And A Young Pharisee

Romans 7:1-25 (continued)

21 I find then a law, that EVIL is present with ME, the one who wills to do good. 22 For I DELIGHT IN THE LAW OF GOD according to the inward man. 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing ME into CAPTIVITY TO THE LAW OF SIN which is in my members. 24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver ME from this body of death? 25 I thank God — through Jesus Christ our LORD!

So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

The Law And A Young Pharisee

I counted 29 **I**'s and 12 **ME**'s in verses 7 – 25

This is Paul's testimony ... what he went through to come to the place of full surrender to Christ at the foot of the Cross ... it is a child who grew up in a very religious, very devout Law-Following Jewish Household. He was surrounded by friends, family, school-mates, etc... who were all brought up the same way. As a very young child before he understood the Law ... it did not have any affect on him and he was alive – apart from the law ... but when the Law came into his life – he died because of sin ... not because God's Law is bad, but it is HOLY and Good.

The Law And A Young Pharisee

Paul found that God's Word, God's Law was completely Holy, Good, and Perfect. Paul found out that he was depraved and sinful. His old sinful nature had taken him captive and when the Law came, sin deceived him and killed him. → verse 11

¹¹ For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived ME, and by it killed ME.

So, Paul is talking about himself, way back when ... Before he met Christ and was saved... before Saul of Tarsus was Born Again ... He was in Captivity to Sin ... it was killing him, sin was leading him to death - yet, God's Law is Holy

The Law And A Young Pharisee

God designed His Law for our Good, but sin takes opportunity and deceives us... God's Law then, Exposes us as fully depraved sinners in need of God's Forgiveness:

24 O wretched man that I am! Who will DELIVER ME from this body of death?

This sounds very familiar to the "sinner" Jesus talked about in Luke 18:13 ... that sinner beat his chest and could not even lift up his head to heaven, crying out "Oh, God, please be merciful to me, a sinner" - Jesus said that humble man went home Justified before God.

Paul came to that same place in his life. The Law could not save Him, it left Him guilty before a Holy God

The Law And A Young Pharisee

Paul did come to Christ... in that Journey he took before he met Christ ... the Law exposed him as a depraved sinner.

What can we learn from this passage?

1. The Law of God is Perfect, Good, and Holy

It was designed by God for our God

It was designed to Restrain Evil

A person who is in love with God, fully surrendered it is not hard to Obey God, with a New Heart. But with an old sinful heart, well, that is another story ...

The Law And A Young Pharisee

What can we learn from this passage?

2. God's Law, the Spiritual side of God's Law Exposes our deepest sins, the impossibility of us being successful in fixing ourselves ... sin is too deep. It exposes even the attitudes of our heart – such as covetousness (the Tenth Commandment – deep in our heart)
Points to our need for Christ's Intervention and Rescue
It is a SchoolMaster, Guardian, Tutor ... teaching us how sinful we are and then points us to the Cross.
It teaches us Humility. It humbles us, if we listen and obey. Repentance is its fruit ... leading us to Embrace Christ Jesus as LORD and Savior

The Law And A Young Pharisee

What can we learn from this passage?

3. Growing up in a highly religious home [even today in a Christian Home with Genuinely saved, born again parents], one that may be legalistic, or just even if it **perceived** to be legalistic but may **not** really be legalistic – sometimes kids who are still sinners bound by sin – they can try to FAKE it to MAKE it ... and try to Be Good and Holy, externally, even agree with the Bible in their mind and heart ... yet fully struggle with sins and failures. They might seek to **cover** them up on their own, hide them, etc. (**fig leaves**) Those kids will seek to be Good, to Learn the Bible, God's Word, the Law of God, God's Righteous Ways for Humans to Live, etc... and find that they are not experiencing close and real relationship with God, etc. (just like Paul grow up in his home)

The Law And A Young Pharisee

What can we learn from this passage?

3. Growing up in a highly religious home . . . The Law ...
etc...

a. It can lead a person to become very radically
religious and legalistic (as Saul of Tarsus was)
- OR -

The Law And A Young Pharisee

What can we learn from this passage?

3. Growing up in a highly religious home . . . The Law ...
etc...

a. It can lead a person to become very radically
religious and legalistic (as Saul of Tarsus was)
- OR -

b. It can lead a person to reject and hate God, the
Bible, their parents' way of life, etc...
They might somehow justify their rejections very
well in some cases
- OR -

The Law And A Young Pharisee

What can we learn from this passage?

3. Growing up in a highly religious home . . . The Law ... etc...
 - c. It can lead a person to accept that he/she is a depraved sinner and in need of Christ's Redeeming Love – which eventually happened to Saul on the Road to Damascus.

HUMILITY is the KEY to Receiving Christ – True Repentance and Trust in God

The Law And A Young Pharisee

Knowing the Information is Only the first step ... acting upon it, just like that sinner did, is the final step:

he cried out and beat on his chest: “Oh GOD, be merciful to me, a sinner” ... Jesus said that person was Justified before God.

→ Paul humbled himself, just like that, after he met Christ on the Road to Damascus.

Paul was showing us, how we can share our Testimony about our coming to Christ, while we are sharing the Truth of the Gospel of Christ. This shows folks that we, too, were depraved sinners on the way to Hell, but now we are saved because of Christ... in the same way, they, too, can Repent and Believe in Christ, just like we have. 😊

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My Encouragement to you today is ...

Please pray about it and then go out and share your faith, the Gospel of Christ, fully and include in that sharing how Christ saved you and what He means to you, today.

Only Saved People will want to share their faith with others ...
just like Paul did ... (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15)



See y'all Next Time we Gather...

@ LIFE Group and/or Here Next Week



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