



MOVING FORWARD

Why "Just Trying" Doesn't Work

Part 3 of 7 - Romans 7:14-25

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • March 6 & 7, 2010 • Book of Romans week 45 • CD 10-08

7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. **15** For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. **16** Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. **17** So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. **18** For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. **19** For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. **20** Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. **21** So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. **22** For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, **23** but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. **24** Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? **25** Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin. (ESV)

1. Note _____

Romans Doesn't Depict Christians as:			Romans Doesn't Usually Depict Non-Christians as:
1A)	2A)	3A)	4A)
1B)			4B)
1C)			4C)
1D)			4D)
1E)			4E)

2. See _____

3. Know _____

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. How does the context of Romans chapters 6, 7 & 8 keep us from taking 7:14-25 and trying to use these verses as an excuse for being lax about sin and indifferent about holiness?

After reexamining this passage (7:14-25), why do the verses themselves (and not just the context) make it impossible to use them as a rationale for being lax or indifferent?

2. Review the supplemental chart provided with this worksheet. How does this chart aid your understanding of the challenging issues involved in a surface reading of Romans 7:14-25?

In what way did the sermon help resolve some of the questions traditionally associated with this passage?

3. Read **Romans 8:1-11**. What are some of the most noticeable contrasts between 7:14-25 and 8:1-11?

4. Read **1 John 1:6-8**. How is this side-by-side combination of expectations (i.e., our expected righteous behavior & our expected failures) helpful?

5. What are some of the most encouraging expectations about the future of your sanctification?

**Read Through
the Bible in a Year**
Go to ESV.org (*Reading Plans: Through the Bible*) for schedule prompts.
March 7th
Deut. 3-4 & Mk. 11:20-33
March 8th
Deut. 5-7 & Mk. 12:1-27
March 9th
Deut. 8-10 & Mk. 12:28-44
March 10th
Deut. 11-13 & Mk. 13:1-13
March 11th
Deut. 14-16 & Mk. 13:14-37
March 12th
Deut. 17-19 & Mk. 14:1-25
March 13th
Deut. 20-22 & Mk. 14:26-50
March 14th
Deut. 23-25 & Mk. 14:51-72

Here is a list of other recorded sermons by Pastor Mike which may assist you in your further study of today's message.

CD # 0906 – **The Goal of Scripture's Many Rules**

CD # 0303 – **Why Being Holy is Such a Big Deal**

CD # 0626 – **Our Assurance & God's Truthfulness**

CD # 0114–0118 – **Internal Warfare (a four-part series on Colossians 3:5-11)**

Here are some resources which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in this week's sermon.

Beeke, Joel R. **The Quest for Full Assurance**. Banner of Truth, 1999.

Carty, Jay. **Counter Attack: Taking Back Ground Lost to Sin**. Third Edition. Yes Ministries, 1988.

Lloyd-Jones, Martyn. **Assurance of Our Salvation: Studies in John 17**. Crossway Books, 2000.

Lundgaard, Kris. **The Enemy Within: Straight Talk About the Power and Defeat of Sin**. P & R Publishing, 1998.

MacArthur, John. **Saved Without A Doubt: How to Be Sure of Your Salvation**. Victor Books, 1992.

Needham, N. R. **The Triumph of Grace: Augustine's Writings on Salvation**. Grace Publications, 2000.

Peterson, David. **Possessed by God: A New Testament Theology of Sanctification and Holiness**. InterVarsity, 2001.

Piper, John. **Desiring God: Meditations of a Christian Hedonist**. Multnomah Press, 1996.

_____. **Finally Alive: What Happens When We Are Born Again**. Christian Focus, 2009.

Ryle, J. C. **Holiness: Its Nature, Hindrances, Difficulties and Roots**. Reprint. Charles Nolan Publishers, 2001.

But it is written of Christians	<i>Appears to be a Non-Christian</i>	Romans 7:14-25	<u>Appears to be a Christian</u>	But it is written of Non-Christians
		¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual, but <i>I am of the flesh, sold under sin.</i>		
"sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law" (6:14)	←			
(The Book of Romans explains our actions)	←			
"us, who walk not according to the flesh" (8:4)	←	¹⁵ For <i>I do not understand my own actions.</i>		
"If you live according to the flesh you will die" (8:13)	←	For <i>I do not do</i> what I want,	→	(3:11) "no one understands; no one seeks for God."
		but <i>I do the very thing I hate.</i>	→	(1:32) "they do [sinful acts] and give approval to those who practice them."
		¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good.		
		¹⁷ So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.		
"give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you" (8:11)	←	¹⁸ For I know that <i>nothing good dwells in me,</i>		
"You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit" (8:9)	←	<i>that is, in my flesh.</i>		
		For I have the desire to do what is right,	→	(1:26) "God gave them up to dishonorable passions"
"you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient" (6:17)	←	but <i>not the ability to carry it out.</i>		
		¹⁹ For I do not do <u>the good I want,</u>	→	(1:28) "God gave them up to a debased mind"
		but <u>the evil I do not want</u>	→	(3:12) "All have turned aside"
"in order that... we too might walk in newness of life" (6:4)	←	is what <i>I keep on doing.</i>		
		²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.		
		²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand.		
		²² For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being,	→	(1:24) "God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity"
		²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the <u>law of my mind</u>	→	(8:6) "to set the mind on the flesh is death"
"you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God" (6:22)	←	and <i>making me captive to the law of sin</i>		
"Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body" (6:12)	←	<i>that dwells in my members.</i>		
"the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin" (8:2)	←	²⁴ <i>Wretched man that I am!</i>		
(answers v.24b) "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (7:25)	←	Who will deliver me from <i>this body of death?</i>		
		²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!		
		So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind,	→	(8:5) "For those who live according to the flesh, set their minds on the things of the flesh"
"[present] your members to God as instruments for righteousness" (6:13)	←	but <i>with my flesh I serve the law of sin.</i>		