2Thess #150

O wretched man only Christ can set you free!

Open up back in Romans chapter 7 where we left off last lesson.

Do not forget next week after Tuesday, I will be off for the holiday until Sunday December 1st - where we will do the Lord’s Supper.

Rob has put that on the website and also remember now we have not only Paypal but Venmo on the website if you feel moved to support the ministry.

Our current study of 2Thessalonians chapter 3 has led us into looking at those people who interfere with our spiritual walk – within the original language of 2Thess 3:2 is what has set this latest study into motion;

/*2Thes 3:2 and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and evil men: for all men have not faith.*

Two types of people concerned Paul –

*Atopos-* (Bel) unreasonable, wicked and perverse in thought and behavior. Also, they are harmful or unrighteous.

*Ponēros-* (Unbel)evil, one who opposes righteousness, a wicked nature, diseased or bad and venomous against Christianity.\

*AUTOE-PAS-* is used when something or someone is off, they are not compliant but difficult and oppose what is right.

*PON-AH-ROS-* is where we get our English word pornography from, something or someone who brings forth darkness or evil.

As I pointed out last lesson the spiritual battle we are called to fight is more often than not a battle of our own consciousness. A spiritual battle between the new nature and the old nature.

/Gal 5:17 For **the desire of the flesh is against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh**; for these are in opposition to one another, in order to keep you from doing whatever you want.\

Once the Bel understands the concept of the flesh and the new nature and the spiritual battle between those two natures – they begin to move away from works programs, as well as guilt and shame.

The Bel matures and realizes they must take responsibility for their free will decisions…they realize that there is no license to sin in God’s grace plan.

God’s grace opens up a deeper love and more compliance with HIS plan…not a rebellious spirit of living like hell!

/Titus 2:11 **For the grace of God** has appeared, bringing **salvation to all people, 12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires** and to live sensibly, righteously, and in a godly manner in the present age,\

If you live in God’s grace plan and become comfortable with a lifestyle of sin there is one of two things wrong with your spiritual life – one is, you may not be truly born again and saved.

You have no spiritual life!

The other is - you did cross the salvation gate and you are a Bel. But you have made choices to rebel against the plan of God and therefore are walking as a loser Believer, destined for misery and discipline.

 REPEAT

As I mentioned last lesson Romans 6 into chapter 7, flow together on this exact subject matter we have embarked upon;

/Rom 6:14 For **sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under the Law but under grace**. 15 What then? Are we to sin because we are not under the Law but under grace? **Far from it!**\

There is a sin nature and new nature and this is something within our temporal walk that becomes a large portion of our spiritual battle.

The sooner you know this and accept this the better your spiritual walk will become.

/Col 3:9 Do not lie to one another, since **you stripped off the old self** with its *evil* practices, 10 and **have put on the new *self,* which is being renewed** to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created it—\

Where we have gotten last lesson in Romans 7 - was the Apostle Paul taking a personal approach about his own struggle with the OSN, even 20 years into his personal walk with Christ.

He carries on a very interesting set of contradictory statements because it is the exact struggle all serious Christians have.

We hate the OSN, we want to walk in obedience – we hate the exact sin that tangles us up… the ones we repeat and fumble over consistently.

/Rom 7:15 For **I do not understand what I am doing**; for I am not practicing what I want *to do,* but I do the very thing I hate.

Every true Christian who is walking a spiritual journey, has this same struggle – a mild case of spiritual schizophrenia!\

Now we say this in jest - but the true definition of schizophrenia, is someone who has one personality, yet they have occasional behaviors and thoughts that do not align with who they truly are.

They act and think out of line with who they truly are within their core.

It’s actually not a multiple personality disorder.

My point being – all Christians need to understand they have a battle within, it’s the OSN against the new nature.

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

 REPEAT

The cure is Dr. Jesus, meaning the more the New Nature is nurtured and walked in, the less the OSN is a problem.

[Rom 7:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/7/16/s_1053016) However, if I do the very thing I do not want *to do,* I agree with the Law, that *the Law is* good.

Of course, the LAW is good - it is the mind of Christ.

The Bel walking in the new nature habitually wants to fulfill the mind of Christ.

IF - is written in a GREEK first class condition, meaning it is a true statement.

All of this section of chapter seven, is a very personal confession of the Apostle Paul used as a teaching tool for all of us!

[/Rom 7:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/7/17/s_1053017) But now, no longer am I *the one* doing it, **but sin that dwells in me**.

It is a (Adamic) nature within me – the Apostle Paul is making a strong statement that we all have to recognize the two natures.\

The Apostle Paul is filled by the HS as all writers of scripture were – but we see he is teaching the principle of – *I’ve been there and done that!*

Any Christian who fails to recognize this will become a Christian who will always struggle with the plan of God in their life.

Just as any Christian who thinks they have no responsibility because it’s all grace. They can’t help that they have an OSN, this will garuntee a life of misery and discipline.

 REPEAT

There is also some skewed teaching in Christianity, that a Bel need not rebound when they sin. This leads to a life of false concepts and failure in the spiritual realm.

Be careful of that attitude, it is very arrogant and refuses to recognize the Bel washing their feet from the cosmic system.

/[Rom 7:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/7/18/s_1053018) For **I know that good does not dwell in me, that is, in my flesh**; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good *is* not.

Obedience to imputed righteousness (nature of Christ) demands two things (power options): rebound when necessary, and consistent perception of the Word of God. \

There is nothing we can do in the flesh that is recognized as spiritual.

Therefore, we need spiritual power through GOD the HS to operate at a spiritual level, while still walking in a flawed body.

/The grace plan of God for the CA Believer, is that while we are surrounded by a lost and dying world, walking in a decaying flesh. With an Adamic nature already sentenced to death, we have access to the nature of Christ, by simply adjusting to the justice of God and allowing the mind of Christ (WORD) to wash over us. This is the logistical combat uniform and weapons given to all CA Bels for the angelic warfare.\

We simply take the grace gift of free will and apply that habitually in a positive fashion to the plan of God.

[Rom 7:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/7/19/s_1053019) For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.

The Apostle Paul used the reference at the beginning of the chapter - which is that of the dead husband, the first marriage is over.

We are now married to Christ.

When we practice sin we are dragging up the dead relationship and cheating on our husband - Jesus Christ.

I remind you many Bels do this with legalism, religious rigor and deeds of the flesh. Sin is sin…it can be moral or immoral degeneracy, or MA sins, or sins of the tongue.

[/Rom 7:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/7/20/s_1053020) But if I do the very thing I do not want, I am no longer *the one* doing it, but **sin**(*hamartia*) **that dwells** (*oikeō*)**in me**.

The sin nature is offensive toward righteousness, it is in violation of the law and nature of GOD. To live in, to reside inside or make a home (pres, act, part).\

HARM-OT-AY-AH, sin - is singular, many times that is referenced as the whole OSN not a singular personal sin.

OR-KAYO, (present, active, participle) this Greek verb is used to point to the sin nature inside of all of us.

The OSN is still within the fallen flesh of the Bel (present tense), even though it is legally dead upon the cross.

The active voice means the OSN produces the action of the verb after salvation.

/*This is why the Believer must have, and does have, the indwelling presence of two members of the Trinity—God the Holy Spirit as the marriage counsellor and the Lord Jesus Christ for the purpose of fellowship. Our marriage is union with Christ, the baptism of the Spirit.*

 *Col. R.B. Thieme Jr* \

The first step to solving a problem is getting to the root cause, first by taking personal responsibility.

Full knowledge and acceptance of the problem must precede awareness of the solution, and its proper application in solving the problem.

 REPEAT

[/Rom 7:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/7/21/s_1053021) I find then **the principle** (*nomos)***that evil is present in me,** the one who wants to do good.

This points to the total depravity of our flesh; it is ingrained into us at birth. This is beyond a choice; it is in the very DNA of mankind.\

NOM-US - points to a rule of law, the original language, uses a term that the evil in us is yoked upon us as a permanent harness. It means a legal precept – a law and it is often used to describe the Mosaic LAW (NT).

The whole of the OSN itself is evil, it is not just a few random sins, it is a nature within the depth of the fiber of our being that is anti-god.

The word *kakos (KACK-OS),* is used for evil here, because it means great harm, injustice, pernicious, destructive and depraved. It is a strong adjective for very dark and criminal thoughts and behavior.

Every one of us has an OSN that is beyond repair - it is considered criminally insane by the justice standards of GOD.

The Apostle Paul is driving home the point of the true depravity of the OSN.

The difficult principle that many Bels fail to grasp, is this inner conflict is often just a good sign that you are a positive Bel moving forward in the plan of God.

REPEAT

[Rom 7:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/7/22/s_1053022) For I joyfully agree with the law of God in the inner person,

The positive Bel is in agreement with the word of God, we actually enjoy it and want to live in it!

[/Rom 7:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/7/23/s_1053023) but I see a different law in the parts of my body **waging war against the law of my mind, and making me a prisoner of the law of sin**, *the law* which is in my body’s parts.

The majority of the battlefield is found within the soul structure of the Bel. Paul is writing this at maturity, filled by the SPIRIT – written from a place of personal experience.\

[Rom 7:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/7/24/s_1053024) Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?

Now we get to the conclusion – the medicine for the ailment.

The true conclusion is seen in the first few scriptures of chapter 8.

[/Rom 7:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/7/25/s_1053025) Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand **I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin**.

The temporal walk, amongst the angelic conflict, is a battlefield and the first and most important training is that of the mind – BD circulating in the soul of a SPIRIT controlled Christian.\

Both the Holy Spirit and Bible Doctrine must control the soul for the Believer to serve with the mind processing and applying the law of God.

Your flesh will always want to kick against the things of GOD – yet we are given the spiritual power in time, to walk in a resurrected life among the spiritually dead and the evil of this world.

It’s important to understand these chapters flow together – the Apostle Paul is not leaving you hanging in chapter 7.

/Rom 8:1 Therefore **there is no condemnation at all** for those **who are in Christ Jesus**. 2 For **the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free** from the law of sin and of death.

Positional Sanctification – you are forever secure and set free, set apart, never to face judgment for your Old Sin Nature. You are now and forever recognized IN CHRIST (position).\

[Rom 8:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/8/3/s_1054003) For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God *did:* sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and *as an offering* for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,

TLJC fulfills every law, mandate and righteousness mentioned in the Bible.

HE walked through the justice system of GOD for us!

**/**[Rom 8:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/8/4/s_1054004) so that **the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us** who do not walk according to the flesh **but according to the Spirit**.

Your free will choice as to how you walk everyday – IT MIGHT ALL BE FULFILLED, if you walk by the power of the HS with BD guiding and motivating you.\