

Under grace over sin part 3

Romans 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

- Notice that coming out from under the law caused sin to lose dominion over you.
 - Lets define the law again.
 - The law, that was given to Moses on Mt Sinai in the wilderness during the exodus of Israel was God's standard for righteousness but it also put a demand on man to perform out of the strength of their flesh to live up to that standard of righteousness. It also demanded judgment for not meeting that standard.
 - Now we know that we are no longer under the demands of the law to perform nor to be judged for not performing because of Jesus.
 - Jesus came under the law and in our place bore all the demands of the law. (he fulfilled it)
 - Now we are under grace where our righteousness is not a demand on our flesh but it's been supplied by the Holy Spirit through a new creation.
 - We have been made righteous and given a new heart that desires righteousness.
 - Under grace we have been empowered through our new birth to walk in righteousness.
 - Under the law God said walk upright before me but under grace we say Holy Spirit guide me into all truth.
- But the problem is we are still teaching and preaching the law today to a new testament church that is under grace.
 - The problem with this is, even though we have come out from under the law spiritually, through teaching and preaching the law we are putting people back under the law mentally.
 - So people are worshiping God and seeing God and themselves as if they are under the law.
 - So they are living in a constant cycle of guilt, condemnation, fear and sin.
 - They are having the same results in their life as if the law was still in place over their lives.

What is teaching and preaching the law today?

- Teaching and preaching the law today would be any teaching or preaching that produces a works mentality in you or a performance mentality.

- Teaching and preaching the law to a new testament church is teaching and preaching that puts more emphasis on your works and what you do than on your faith in what Jesus has already done.
- So a couple examples we have been given of law scriptures is **deut 28:1-2 and Isa 59:1-2**
 - Notice how both of these scriptures put the emphasis on what you do in order to get God to move in your life.
 - Now if I preach these scriptures to you I will produce a law mentality in you and cause you to serve God as if you are under the law.
 - Meaning that you will began to put the emphasis on your works to make you righteous or accepted by God and able to be blessed by God instead of the finished works of Jesus.
 - Quit worshiping like the veil is still up
 - **Hebrews 9:19-22**
 - You will put your faith in you instead of Jesus and we know according to **Gal 5:4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.**
- So in the new testament church Jesus had done everything that needs to be done to bring us out from under the law spiritually but we must come out from under it mentally.
 - We must know that we are out from under the law and the demand to perform to be righteous and accepted by God.
 - If we don't come out form under the law mentally we will have the same results in our life as if we were still under the law and sin still had dominion over us.
 - Now God will love us and never leave us and be merciful to us according to the new testament but we will still live out of the strength of our flesh trying to be righteous and good enough. We live in fear of His judgment and wrath. We will not trust Him that He will heal us and deliver us because we may not be good enough and sin will still be active in our life.

So we've been saying that if we get put back under the law or a law mentality that sin will dominate us and one of the ways a law mentality will cause sin to dominate us is it will cause us to produce more sin.

- **Romans 7:1 Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?**

- So what he is talking about here is being alive in the flesh and dead spiritually in your sin.
 - So this is talking about before you got saved.
 - In Romans 6 Paul just got done describing how we are baptized into the death of Jesus and how the old man of sin or our sin nature died with Him on the cross.
 - So to be alive according to this verse is to not be baptized into Jesus death through faith in His finished works and therefore to still be alive in the old man of sin.
- So when the old man of sin was still alive then you were under the demands of the law.
 - Meaning that if you were going to be righteous you were going to have to meet all the standards of the law
 - If you didn't you were going to be separated from God and have to suffer the judgment of the law which is death and eternal damnation in hell.
- But now he is going to explain to us through the example of marriage how through being baptized into Jesus death and the old man dying, how that death frees us from the demands of the law and enables us to be righteous and bare righteous fruit.
- **2 For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband.3 So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.**
 - Under the mosaic law divorce was not permitted.
 - It was till death do your part.
 - So you were bound to the law that said you had to stay with your husband and you could only be intimate with him and produce fruit or children with Him unless He died.
 - Once he died that death freed you from that law and you were permitted to marry another and be intimate with them and produce fruit or children by them.
 - Other wise if you tried to be intimate with another without death then you would be considered and adulteress.
- **4 Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.**

- So we are a three part being which is spirit, soul (mind will and emotions) and body
 - We are a spirit who has a soul or the ability to think feel and choose and we function in a body.
 - The real me is not the physical me it's the spirit me.
- Now when I was born I was born with a corrupt spirit man that was dead to God and had a sin nature in it.
 - This is the first husband that Paul is referring to.
 - I was bound to this husband by the law and I had to produce from intimacy with this husband whatever I could produce which was sin and fruit unto death.
 - As I submitted my soul and body to this spiritual man that was corrupt with the sin nature from adam all that came out of my soul and body was sin.
 - Now I may have tried to produce righteousness but that's not what was coming out because I was trying to produce it out of my flesh outside of the spirit of God and there was no strength in my flesh to produce it.
- But when I put my faith in Jesus and I was baptized into his death the old man or that first corrupted spirit man died and I became a new spirit man that was righteous and and the nature of God in it.
 - So now through that death I am no longer bound by the law to stay separated from the presence and power of God and to try to produce fruits of righteousness or righteous thoughts, feelings, decision or actions through intimacy with the flesh outside of the Holy Spirit.
 - No now I am free to deny intimacy with my flesh and be intimate with Jesus, my new husband, through my new born again spirit and produce out of my soul and body fruits of righteousness.
- **5 For when we were in the flesh,**
 - So still married to the old man, not baptized into Christ, still operating out of the strength of the flesh.
- **the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.**
 - So the motions of sins or the passions of sin were by the law. Did work in our members, soul and body to produce sin.
 - This says that the law (ten commandments) actually put sin in motion or stirred up the passions of sin in us to produce sin.

- **Ampc Romans 7:5 When we were living in the flesh (mere physical lives), the sinful passions that were awakened *and* aroused up by [what] the Law [makes sin] were constantly operating in our natural powers (in our bodily organs, in the sensitive appetites and wills of the flesh), so that we bore fruit for death.**
- So it's the same Idea as the kid you told not to touch something and now he wants to touch it because you drew his attention to it.
 - You stirred up his passion for it. It would've been better not to say anything.
 - So If I preach the law to you (ten commandments, judgment and so on) I'm going to get the same results.
 - I'm not going to limit your lusts for sin I'm going to set them in motion and stir them up.
- **Romans 7:6 But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held;**
 - We were held by the law because the new man was dead in sin and the old man was alive.
 - But now that the old man is dead and the new man is alive we are no longer bound by the law to produce from the old man or the flesh.
- **that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.**
 - So now I serve God out of the new man or by submitting my soul and my body to the new man which is filled with the power of Jesus through the Holy Spirit.
 - I don't serve out of the law trying to produce the righteousness of the law out of my flesh or my old man or by being intimate with my old man.
 - But understand that when I preach the law to you I am trying to make you serve God out of the oldness of the letter which means you will try to obey out of the strength of your flesh.
 - Which means that I am making you intimate with your old husband and you will produce the same dead fruit
 - So I'm not limiting sin in your life I'm increasing it.
- **Romans 7:7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid.**
 - So Paul is not saying that the law is bad and evil and sinful and therefore it produces sin.
 - That's not the point of the law.
- **Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.**
 - The law is not sinful or bad it just laid out God's standard of righteousness.

- The point of the law was to define what sin was and show us how far we were from God's standard of righteousness and show us the need for grace through Jesus Christ.
- But the law in itself couldn't make us righteous. The law kept us bound to our old man, the flesh, which could only produce sin.
- **Romans 7:8 But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence (basically sinful lusts and passions). For without the law sin was dead.**
 - The law was not sinful and therefore produced sin in me.
 - But sin, took occasion or an opportunity by the commandment or the law and produced all kinds of sinful lusts and passions in me.
 - So the sin that was already in my flesh took an opportunity afforded to it by the law to stir up sinful lusts in my soul and body.
 - The law that is holy and righteous and God's standard for righteousness gave the sin already in me an opportunity to stir up evil passions in me.
 - For without the law sin was dead.
 - Sin will stay dead and not stir up sinful passions without the law.
 - But were the law is being taught and preached and proclaimed it will give an opportunity for sin to stir up sinful lusts and passions.
- **Romans 7:9 For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.**
 - Paul is not saying that the law came in the middle of his life.
 - No the law came thousands of years before Paul was born.
 - What He is saying is that I was alive and had communion with God even though I was born a sinner until the commandment or the law came into my attention I began to be aware of what the law said.
 - When I became aware of the law sin revived or came alive in me with all of its sinful passions and I died to any communion I had with God.
 - So when the law came it bound him to the old man of sin which was separated from the presence and the power of God and destined for hell and could not produce the righteousness of God.
 - Paul could be referring to here what we call the age of accountability.
 - There is a time when someone is a child and they don't have the mental capacity to understand sin and judgement (the law) and so they are under God's mercy.

- This could also be someone of a mental handicap as well. But we will leave that up to God I'm sure he is righteous and merciful in his judgment of those people in that predicament.
- None the less don't miss the point that Paul said when He became aware of the law that defined for him what sin was and the judgment for that sin, sin came alive in Him and he died spiritually.
- So how does the law give sin the opportunity to produce sinful passions in us and cause sin to come alive in us the new testament believer?
 - Because even though we are not under the law if I preach the law I'm going to get the same results.
 - I'm going to give sin the opportunity to produce sinful passions in us.
- 1. The law brings us out of the spirit realm and back into the realm of the flesh.
 - We must understand that even though we are saved and born again we still have flesh to deal with.
 - Let me define flesh:
 - It's thinking, feeling, choosing, acting completely outside of the influence of the Holy Spirit.
 - As long as we have free will we will have the flesh because we will always have the authority to not obey the Holy Spirit.
 - But the bible makes a difference between being in the flesh and after the flesh.
 - **Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.**
 - So there's no condemnation to them that are in Christ (born again) who walk not after the flesh.
 - So if it says this then there must be some who are in Christ and walk after the flesh.
 - So you can be in Christ and be after the flesh.
 - This is opposed to **romans 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**
 - So if you are in Christ then the spirit of God dwells in you and you are not in the flesh.
 - But even though you may not be in the flesh but in Christ you can still be in Christ and after the flesh.

- So what this means is I'm not in the flesh dead in my sins and the man of sin, my old husband is alive if I'm in Christ.
- But I can be in Christ and after my flesh or conducting my life outside of any influence of the Holy Spirit.
- When I'm after the flesh I'm identifying with the old man instead of the new man that I am.
- **Rom 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing:**
 - There is nothing good going to come out of my flesh or thinking, feeling, choosing, acting outside of the Holy Ghost.
 - There's nothing but sinful lusts and passions and desires in my flesh.
- **for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.**
 - So I can have a will to do good but in my flesh I can't figure out how to perform it.
- **Romans 8:4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.**
 - Being after the spirit or operating outside of the influence of the Holy Ghost is not going to fulfill the righteousness of the law.
 - My point you is when you preach the law it brings you out of a place where you are relying on the spirit and puts you in a place where you are trusting in your flesh.
 - But in your flesh is no good thing. So now the sin that is in your flesh now has an opportunity by the law to begin to operate in your life.
- 2. The law creates an opportunity for the flesh to be tempted into sin.
 - **Hebrews 11:13 These all died in faith,**
 - He's referring to all the patriarchs of the old testament like enoch, noah, abraham, sarah, mooses and so on.
 - They died in faith in the coming messiah.
 - **not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.**
 - They received the promises of salvation, grace, righteousness and so on but just saw them from a distance.
 - **14 For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. 15 And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from**

whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

- These were all called out of a country and a way from a people and a culture, especially abraham.
- But this says had they been mindful of what they came out of they may have had the opportunity to go back to it. But they wasn't mindful of it.
- **16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.**
 - They didn't go back because it wasn't on their mind.
 - You can't be tempted with something that is not on your mind.
 - And what the law does is it puts sin on your mind and when sin gets on your mind it becomes an opportunity for the flesh to be tempted.
 - But not only that the law has put you back in the flesh so now not only are you tempted but you are now trying to overcome that temptation in the strength of your flesh outside of Christ who already overcome every temptation and gave you his power that can overcome any temptation.