

The Righteousness of God

Free *To*,
Not Free *From*

Romans 7:1-6 (ESV)

¹ Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? ² For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. ³ Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress. ⁴ Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. ⁵ For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. ⁶ But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

Released from the Law?

This passage is a continuation of Paul's response to Romans 6:15 ...

"Since God's grace has set us free from the law, does that mean we can go on sinning?" (NLT)

What's the law for?

How do most respond to the law?

What is one ironic effect of the law (v. 5)?

Paul's analogy: _____

*There must be a divorce between you and sin,
or there can be no marriage between you and Christ.*

– CHS

3 reasons I (must) live a radically different life after salvation:

_____ – the one that was a slave to sin and under the tyranny of a law I could not meet – is _____.

I'm not the same person anymore.

Whereas I once was "married" to the law, I now have a completely different relationship and allegiance. I am _____.

My best efforts at goodness and law-keeping before I was saved were grossly insufficient. But now, _____.

Remember:

Justification doesn't lead to _____.

Justification leads to _____.

Every time.

If I am still looking for an "out", a "loophole", or any excuse to sin, I am probably _____.

On the other hand, if I am desire – more than anything – to please God (even though I am imperfect and flawed in my attempts, and still occasionally fail), I give evidence that _____.