

URGENT

CIRCA ROMAE
1st
century
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R o m a n s

Rom. 7:1-6 Do you not know, brothers — for I am speaking to men who know the law — that the law has authority over a man only as long as he lives? For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage. So then, if she marries another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress, even though she marries another man. So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

V. 1: Principle: The law has authority over a person as long as he or she lives, but that authority ends at death.

V. 2-3: Illustration: According to the (Jewish) law the wife should stay married to her husband as long as he lives. If he dies, she is free from the law of marriage and can marry again.

V. 4-6: Application: Believers have died to the law through the death of Christ, they are liberated from the law and are joined in freedom to Christ.

**Romans 6:15 "What then? Shall we
sin because we are not under law
but under grace?"**



**"God did not send his son to lead us
to the law; he gave the law to lead
us to his son."**

John Piper

**Won't this produce lawless, unloving
people?**

1. Principle:

The law has authority over a person only as long as they are alive. We died with Christ.

2. Illustration:

Marriage death and remarriage

3. Application:

We died to the law so that we might be joined to Christ.

***In order that we might bear fruit to
God***

**We are not set free from the law to
live lawless lives...but in order to be
joined to Christ...in order to bear
fruit for God.**

Luke 10:27 He answered: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Galatians 5:22

"The fruit of the Spirit is love..."

**The gospel *cannot* produce lawless,
unloving people.**

**So what do we do with the "laws" of
the Bible?**

Rom. 7:4 So, (so = application is coming here) my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that (purpose) you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that (purpose) we might bear fruit to God.

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Wrong question: "Do I have to obey the rules now or not?"

Right Question: "What do I get to do now with what God has revealed about himself in His word?"

I get to bear fruit to God!

Gal. 5:16-21 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Gal. 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Gal. 5:24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.

Gal. 5:25-6:2 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Gal. 5:25 Since we live by the Spirit,
let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Indicative: *We live by the Spirit*

Imperative: *Let us keep in step with the
Spirit*

**Gal. 6:2 Carry each other's burdens,
and in this way you will fulfill the
law of Christ.**