



Heritage Alliance Church
March 12, 2023
Pastor Shawn

Part 8 – Dead to Law

Questions for reflection:

What makes living in under the new covenant with God a challenge for you?

What makes living under the new covenant with God exciting for you?

What do you think it looks like for live by the Spirit and not under the law?

How have you learned to follow the voice of the Spirit?

The Good News Outline - Romans

- ⇒ Good news tells us **how** God makes us right in His sight (1:16-17).
- ⇒ Judgement is coming against ungodliness & unrighteousness (1:18).
- ⇒ God makes us right in His sight by faith in Jesus Christ (3:22, 4:5).
- ⇒ We have peace with God because of what Jesus did on the Cross (5:1)
- ⇒ Wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life. (6:23)

Covenants are for as long as you live. Uniting yourself with Jesus in his death and resurrection ended your relationship with the Law.

“You died to the power of the law when you died with Christ. And now you are united with the one who was raised from the dead.”

Romans 7:4

Being dead is more than free **FROM**, but also free to live **FOR** something.

“Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the new way of living in the Spirit.”

Romans 7:6

The Law wasn't able to save us, it could only condemn us.

“So I discovered that the law's commands, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death instead.”

Romans 7:10

The Problem wasn't the law, the problem is with my sinful nature

“Sin used what was good to bring about my condemnation to death.” Romans 7:13

The Law and the Old Covenant was temporary

“Before the way of faith in Christ was available to us, we were placed under guard by the law. We were kept in protective custody, so to speak, until the way of faith was revealed. Let me put it another way. The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.”

Galatians 3:23-25

The **Law is over**, but **living by Spirit** has now begun.

Our Covenant is Better! Our Promises are better!

“But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight.

Romans 3:21-24

Living by the Spirit not by Law

“Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit.” Romans 8:5

Romans 7 No Longer Bound to the Law - NLT

7 “Now, dear brothers and sisters—you who are familiar with the law—don't you know that the law applies only while a person is living? 2 For example, when a woman marries, the law binds her to her husband as long as he is alive. But if he dies, the laws of marriage no longer apply to her. 3 So while her husband is alive, she would be committing adultery if she married another man. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law and does not commit adultery when she remarries.

4 So, my dear brothers and sisters, this is the point: You died to the power of the law when you died with Christ. And now you are united with the one who was raised from the dead. As a result, we can produce a harvest of good deeds for God. 5 When we were controlled by our old nature, sinful desires were at work within us, and the law aroused these evil desires that produced a harvest of sinful deeds, resulting in death. 6 But now we have been released from the law, for we died to it and are no longer captive to its power. Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the new way of living in the Spirit.

God's Law Reveals Our Sin

7 Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful? Of course not! In fact, it was the law that showed me my sin. I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, “You must not covet.” 8 But sin used this command to arouse all kinds of covetous desires within me! If there were no law, sin would not have that power. 9 At one time I lived without understanding the law. But when I learned the command not to covet, for instance, the power of sin came to life, 10 and I died. So, I discovered that the law's commands, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death instead. 11 Sin took advantage of those commands and deceived me; it used the commands to kill me. 12 But still, the law itself is holy, and its commands are holy and right and good.

13 But how can that be? Did the law, which is good, cause my death? Of course not! Sin used what was good to bring about my condemnation to death. So, we can see how terrible sin really is. It uses God's good commands for its own evil purposes.

Struggling with Sin

14 So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin. 15 I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. 16 But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. 17 So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

18 And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. 19 I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. 20 But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

21 I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. 22 I love God's law with all my heart. 23 But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. 24 Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? 25 Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So, you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God's law, but because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin.”