

Romans Series

Lesson #81

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Dean Bible Ministries

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The Epistle to the ROMANS

The Law Reveals Sin Romans 7:8–25



The Law's Relationship to Sin and Death:

**The Law Reveals the Sinfulness of the Sin Nature
and the Sin Nature is the Cause of Spiritual Death.**

- 1. Question: Is the Law sin? (7:7a)**
- 2. Answer: No. It is holy and reveals sin. (7b–12)**

Romans 7:7,

“What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? May it never be! On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law; for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, ‘You shall not covet.’ ”

Rom. 7:7,

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γινώσκω *ginōskō*
2aor act indic 1 sing

to know, come to know, recognize

οἶδα *oīda*
pluperf act indic 1 sing

to know intuitively

Conclusion:

- 1. No, the law is just, holy and spiritual (7:12, 14)**
- 2. The law reveals, illuminates sin (7:7)**
- 3. The law provokes sin (5:20)**
- 4. The law is useful if used lawfully (1 Tim. 1:8)**
- 5. The law's purpose originally was to promote life (Psa 119:50)**

What is the Role of the Law?

Christianity has historically been confused.

- 1. Law here clearly refers not simply to absolutes in general, but the Mosaic Law in particular. The word *nomos* is used approximately 195× in the New Testament; 180× refer to the Mosaic Law. The remainder refer to either a principle, Old Testament Scripture, or the Law of Christ (love, John 13:52).**

2. The Mosaic Law was a particular covenant which God made with Israel.

3. Conclusion: The Mosaic Law was a contract between God (party of the first part) and the nation Israel (party of the second part) and had nothing to say to Christians.

Rom. 3:20, “for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.”

Rom. 5:20, “And the Law came in that the transgression might increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,”

1 Tim. 1:8, “But we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous man, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers.”

Rom. 7:8, “But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind; for apart from the Law sin is dead.”

James 2:17, “Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”

Rom. 7:9, “I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died;”