

THE TRAITOR WITHIN

THE PASSAGE

Romans 7:1-25

Why The OT Laws No Longer Apply To Us

Romans 7:1-6 Matthew 5:17-20 John 19:30 & Matthew 27:50-51

The Purpose Of The OT Laws

Romans 7:7-13 Psalm 19:7-11 Deuteronomy 27:26 & Galatians 3:10

The Traitor Within

Romans 7:14-25 Romans 6:5-7 Ecclesiastes 7:20 Romans 5:12 & 3:23

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE FAIL TO TAKE THE TRAITOR WITHIN SERIOUSLY

(1) We'll be **BLINDSIDED** by sin.

1 Corinthians 10:12 Proverbs 22:3 2 Timothy 2:22 2 Chronicles 26

(2) We'll focus on the **WRONG** enemy.

1 Corinthians 5:9-13 James 1:13-16 Jeremiah 17:9 & Matthew 15:18-20

(3) We'll become **DISILLUSIONED** and **CYNICAL**.

(4) We'll create a climate of **HYPOCRISY** and **HARSHNESS**.

1 John 2:1-2 & Revelation 12:10 James 5:16 & Matthew 7:2

Food for Thought

For the week of March 26, 2017
(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. At one time or another we all fall under the influence of the traitor within. Realizing that we are giving in to temptation can be quite humbling and frightening to admit. What hope and incentive do the following verses give us when this occurs?

Proverbs 18:12 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹²Before a downfall the heart is haughty,
but humility comes before honor.

Isaiah 57:15 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹⁵For this is what the high and exalted One says—
he who lives forever, whose name is holy:

“I live in a high and holy place,
but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly
and to revive the heart of the contrite.

Hebrews 4:14-16 *New International Version (NIV)*

Jesus the Great High Priest

¹⁴Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

James 4:6 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁶But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

“God opposes the proud
but shows favor to the humble.”

2. We often fall victim to the traitor within because we don’t understand how subtle temptation is. Temptation takes us through a series of small compromises and/or unwise decisions until we are enticed into sinning. How could the following passages help prepare you to deal with any temptations that may come your way?

Galatians 6:7-10 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁷Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. ⁸Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. ⁹Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. ¹⁰Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Romans 6:12-13 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹²Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. ¹³Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

Hebrews 2:17-18 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹⁷For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

3. This weekend we heard once again how the law is useful in showing us our sin. Having a clear understanding of God's law is important in helping us know what role it should play in our lives. King David, the apostle Paul and Jesus each give us a healthy perspective on God's law. Read the following passages and jot down a few notes on their views of the law.

David:

Psalm 1:1-3 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹ Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
² but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers

Psalm 19:7-11 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect,
refreshing the soul.
The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,
making wise the simple.
⁸ The precepts of the LORD are right,
giving joy to the heart.
The commands of the LORD are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.
⁹ The fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever.
The decrees of the LORD are firm,
and all of them are righteous.
¹⁰ They are more precious than gold,
than much pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey,
than honey from the honeycomb.
¹¹ By them your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

Paul:

Romans 3:19-24 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

Righteousness Through Faith

²¹ But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Romans 7:7 *New International Version (NIV)*

The Law and Sin ⁷ What shall we say, then? Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "You shall not covet."

Jesus:

Matthew 22:34-40 *New International Version (NIV)*

The Greatest Commandment

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”