

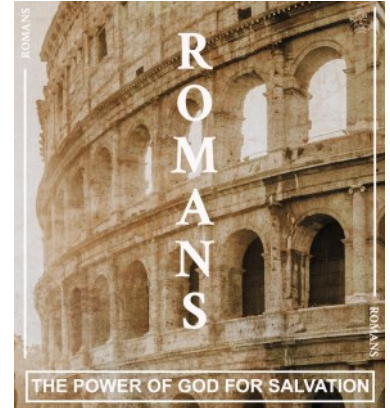
Pastor Jake Magee

Message Notes / 11.03.24

Romans 7:1-4



“¹Or 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? ²For 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. ³Accordingly, 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. ⁴Likewise, 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.”



A Bad Marriage Getting **WORSE**

A Good Marriage Gone **BAD**

The Greatest Marriage Gone **BAD**

Saving a Marriage

Sanctification: *is the ongoing supernatural work of God to rescue justified sinners from the power and disease of sin and to conform them to the image of his Son.*

Romans 7:1-4

Discussion Questions

The Big Idea - How is our new life in Christ different from our old life without him? We are told in chapter six that it's like being in two different kingdoms and under two different masteries. Now in chapter 7:1-4 we're told it's like being in two different marriages.

1. What are some famous and infamous marriages?

Digging Deeper *(Read Romans 7:1-4)*

2. According to God's law, unless a few serious breaches of the covenant of marriage have taken place, death is the only way it is dissolved.

a) What are those breaches?

b) How does this vision of marriage differ from what we see in culture?

3. Verses 2&3 seem to describe a bad marriage.

a) What are some implicit reasons for why the marriage described became bad?

b) How were those reasons true of our relationship with God before knowing Jesus?

4. In verses 2&3, it looks like God's law is getting in the way of a spouse who wants to leave.

a) What are other cases where God's commandments put us in situations we want out of?

b) What do you say to a Christian who feels trapped by God's Word in a marriage?

5. Bad marriages usually start out as good relationships. And good relationships start out with people seeking 'a law' to keep the relationship vibrant and permanent.

- a) As a group, think of some love songs that illustrate lovers seeking a law.
- b) Why can't love be fully expressed without following a law?
- c) How do laws become oppressive in a marriage without love?

6. Verse 4 says that people's relationship with God is supposed to be like a loving marriage with laws. Answer the following questions, specifically discussing the connection between *love* and *laws* in each case.

- How was our initial creation like a good marriage gone bad?
- Why was God's marriage to Israel a bad marriage that stayed bad?
- What did God promise to Israel about fixing their marriage to him in Jer. 31:31-34?
- What do the final chapters of the Bible say about our marriage to God?

7. God saves a marriage with a spouse who wished him and his laws dead. Verse 4 tells us how God saves our marriage with him. Discuss the details of verse 4. Bring in other passages that speak of Jesus as a self-sacrificing husband.

Resources

Romans: *Righteousness from Heaven* | R. Kent Hughes.

*www.blueletterbible.org

www.preceptaustin.org