

Why? | Part 4

Lesson 10

Romans 6:1-16, 7:14-25

January 28, 2024

Why Can't I Stop?

INTRODUCTION

The Book of Romans is often noted as a very doctrinally focused book. It is not light reading and has no simple storyline. Per theologian Charles Ryrie, Paul is writing in a more formal way than in his other letters to set forth key doctrines including justification by faith, the righteousness of God, universality of sin, propitiation, and faith among other significant doctrines. This week we are looking at two of these concepts. The first is counteracting the notion that since we are forgiven in Christ, we can sin and not suffer consequences due to grace...sort of a “get out of jail” card. But Paul points out that if we have become united with Christ, we should live with Him and not be slaves to our lusts. Second, he writes about the struggle between our flesh, our will, and our desire to please God. In other words, why do we still do wrong when we know what is right? Ancient philosophers struggled with this internal struggle of good and evil, but Paul provides the answer: “Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!” (Romans 7:25) So, get ready for focused reading and how Paul describes this internal struggle.

Memory verse: “In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”—Romans 6:11

Pray, and read Romans 6:1-16 and 7:14-25. What questions or observations do you have about these passages?

4. In Chapter 7, Paul explains how the Law defines sin but is used by the flesh to tempt us! What is the conflict? (Romans 7:7-12)

5. Paul continues the dilemma of having this internal battle: "Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me." How is he finally rescued? (Romans 7:21-25)

INTERPRETATION: What do the passages mean?

1. We all have this internal struggle of a will to do right but also a propensity to do wrong. What is the human condition? (Psalm 14:2-3; Romans 3:10-12, 5:12)

2. How are we rescued from this condition?
(Isaiah 53:4-6; John 3:16; Romans 5:7-8, 10:9-10)

3. Where else does Christ give us deliverance or victory?
(Deuteronomy 20:4; Romans 7:25; 1 Corinthians
15:54-58; 2 Corinthians 2:14; Philippians 2:13)

