

Study Guide for April 15th, 2012. Free to Remarry: Romans 7:1-6.

Introduction: Recall a time you were released from an obligation. What were the details? What were you free to do since the previous restrictions were lifted?

I. The Principle: Death releases us from the authority of the law. (Rom. 7:1)

- A. How does Paul address his readers here? What do they already know?
- B. How has Paul depicted the effect of the Mosaic Law? (Rom. 3:19-20, 4:13-15, 5:20)
- C. What is the statute of limitations on the law's authority?

II. The Illustration: Marriage – Till death do us part. (Rom. 7:2-3)

- A. How long is a married woman bound to her husband? What will she be called if she remarries while he is still living? If her husband dies, what is her status?
- B. Comment on the statement, “Only death can secure freedom from the law.”
- C. What new relationship is possible for the believer since there has been a death?

III. The Application: Fruitfulness comes from being united to Christ. (Rom. 7:4)

- A. How did this liberating death Paul is talking about take place?
- B. Compare Rom. 6 & Rom. 7:1-6 by answering the following questions. . .
 - 1) To what did believers die? How? (Compare Rom. 6:2-3 with 7:4)
 - 2) What were we (believers) freed from? (Compare Rom. 6:7, 18 with 7:6)
 - 3) How is our present life described? (Compare Rom. 6:4 with 7:6)
 - 4) What is the fruit of this new life? (Compare Rom. 6:22 with 7:4)
- C. In light of this comparison, describe the relationship between the Law and sin?

IV. The Contrast: Are you controlled by the flesh or the Spirit? (Rom. 7:5-6)

- A. Contrast our old life (vs. 5) to the description of the new life (vs. 6).
- B. What was the key action that liberated us from the old lifestyle to the new one?
- C. What does it look like to follow the new way of the Spirit? (Rom. 2:29, II Cor. 3:6)