

**WHEN IN ROME VII**  
**CONSEQUENCE FOR THE STRUGGLE**  
**ROMANS 7:13-20**  
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**GRACE**  
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When you struggle, remember you are not your struggle.

Preliminary

- Paul is not contradicting himself in 2:14-16. Rather, he's making the case that the Law clarifies the nature of sin and amplifies the effect of sin.
- Self-justification and self-righteousness flourish outside of the written Word.

Romans 7:13-20

*Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure. <sup>14</sup> For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. <sup>15</sup> For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. <sup>17</sup> So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.*

In the struggle...

- Don't let the struggle muddle your mind: Seek clarity and think humbly – 7:13 *Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.*

- Jesus isn't the problem, nor is the Law. Sin is the problem.
- You'll sometimes feel conflicted and even confuse yourself – 7:14-16, 19 *For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. <sup>15</sup> For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good...<sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.*
- When YOU struggle, remember YOU are not your struggle – 7:17-18, 20 *So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out...<sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.*

### Steps to move forward in the struggle

- God's Word: Daily intake.
  - It's a daily adjustment and re-centering on the foundational stuff of your life.
  - It's a daily reminder of who you are and Who is with you.
- God's People: Iron sharpening iron.
  - Regular interaction with other followers of Jesus sharpens your mind and grows your love for what Jesus loves.
- God's Mission: People far from God.
  - Regular Gospel conversations with people far from God grow your passion and compassion.