

Simply Christ

Gospel Newsletter

Sharing the simplicity that is in Christ

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The Law of Sin and Death

There is a law that every human becomes an expert in at some point in their existence. From the infant to the elderly, from the drifter to the aerospace engineer, all of us are students of this law and continually gain new understanding on how to function under its domain. This law I speak of is called the law of gravity. Everything upon planet earth is affected and bound by its power. Nothing breaks this law, but we all learn to compensate and deal with it. An airplane may seem to break the law of gravity, but that is only an illusion. A 707 jet airliner will burn through roughly 13000 lbs of jet fuel an hour as it struggles to stay airborne against the unrelenting pull of gravity. An infant must learn how to exert energy to compensate for gravity before he or she can even roll over or begin to crawl. Absolute “laws” such as the law of gravity are defined as *“something to which there is no exception.”*

The word of God speaks of another such law which it calls *“the law of sin and death.”* Romans 8:2 This *“law of sin and death”* is not a commandment, but rather it is a description of the dominion under which humanity has lived since the transgression of Adam. The apostle Paul tells what this *“law”* is and when it gained its dominion when he says that *“by one man **sin** entered into the world, **and death** by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:”* Romans 5:12 The entrance of **sin and death**

into the world changed everything. Its power became absolute. This is verified by the fact Paul reminds us of, saying; *“for that all have sinned.”* If only *“almost everyone”* had sinned, this would not be an absolute *“law.”* But because everyone other than Jesus Christ (who was not of the earth, but was the Lord from heaven | Corinthians 15:47) has fallen to sin's dominance, it is evident that this IS an absolute *“law.”* No one breaks this *“law of sin and death.”* People just learn to compensate and deal with it. All carnal religion in some form is seeking to equip people to survive and excel under its unrelenting oppression.

The apostle Paul tells us about the workings of this *“law”* in the 7th chapter of Romans. Before coming to Christ, as Saul of Tarsus he was an expert at compensating and excelling under its dominion. But just as a jet cannot stay airborne forever, Saul of Tarsus found that this *“law”* never stopped pulling him down into captivity. He wrote; *“I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and **bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.**”* Romans 7:21-23 Indeed, every human experience teaches us that the *“law of sin and death”* has an unbreakable dominion over the human existence.

For anyone to deny the absolute dominion of *“the law of sin and death”* over every person seems as foolish as denying the dominion of gravity. This is why it is almost universally accepted and proclaimed that we are all sinners, and will be so as long as we live in a natural body. No one questions this because it seems to fit their

experience. But what if the word of God tells us something different? Should we consider God's word to be foolish?

Listen to what the apostle Paul says concerning this matter: *"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus **hath made me free from the law of sin and death.**"* Romans 8:2 How foolish is this statement? When every experience of humanity has proven to us that this *"law of sin and death"* is absolute in its dominion, how can Paul say he was made free from *"the law of sin and death"*? The answer is simple. He had discovered that in Christ there was another *"absolute law"* which superseded the *"law of sin and death."* This greater *"law"* he called *"the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus!"*

Those whose life is IN Christ Jesus are made free from *"the law of sin and death"* and its dominion over mankind. As they live in Christ Jesus they do not struggle with either sin or condemnation, because Christ has delivered them from the bondage of sin and the condemnation that always accompanies it. Sin is washed from their heart and nature by the shed blood of Christ Revelation 1:5 and their old man of sin is crucified with Christ where the body of sin is destroyed. Romans 6:6 The gospel of Christ does not teach us how to compensate for *"the law of sin and death."* It makes us FREE from it! As Jesus said, *"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed!"* John 8:36.