

Owasso First Assembly

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Frustration and Freedom

Vault Verse — Romans 1:16–17 (ESV)"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, 'The righteous shall live by faith.'"

- 1. Romans could be described as a portrait gallery.
 - First is a portrait of God
 - Next is a portrait of a person without God
 - Then comes a picture of a person who has put their faith in Jesus
 - Paul next uses Abraham and David as examples of being justified by faith
 - He then describes the blessings of a person who is justified by faith
- 2. He now comes to the person who strive to maintain salvation through personal effort
- 3. He will continue with the person who is led by the Spirit

I. The Law aroused our sinfulness and exposes our sin Romans 7

- 1. The Law is holy but powerless to transform the heart. V 12
- 2. Being united with Jesus gives us ability to produce a harvest of good deeds for God. V.4
- 3. If we are led by our sinful nature, the law produces a harvest of sinful deeds. V. 5
- 4. The law arouses evil desires that produce a harvest of sinful deeds. V.6, 8
- 5. Disobedience to the law leads to death. V.5
- We are released from the law when we die to it and are no longer captive to its power.
 V.6
- 7. The Law exposes our sin. V. 7
- 8. The Law brought death. vv. 10-11
- 9. The Law is holy, but sin is terrible. vv. 12-14
- 10. The Law does not influence us toward obedience. vv15-21

Trusting in your ability and strength to live righteously is futile, foolish, and fatal.

11. Who can deliver us from this dilemma?

Romans 7:24–25 (NLT)²⁴ Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? ²⁵ Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So, you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God's law, but because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin.

II. Belonging to Jesus provides freedom from sin and its consequences

Romans 8

- 1. We have freedom from judgment-No Condemnation vv 1-4
 - a. We are free from the power of sin that leads to death.
 - b. Sin no longer controls us.
- 2. We have freedom from defeat-No Obligation vv. 5-17
 - a. Paul describes 4 differences between a carnal believer and a spiritual believer.
 - 1) Dominated by the sinful nature and controlled by the Holy Spirit. v.5
 - 2) Death and life. v.6
 - 3) War with God and Peace with God. vv. 6-7
 - 4) Pleasing self and pleasing God. v.8
 - b. When we place our faith in Jesus we receive the Holy Spirit.
 - c. The Holy Spirit will lead us into spiritual fullness.
- 3. We have freedom from discouragement-No Frustration vv 18-30
 - a. Present sufferings are mitigated by future glory v 18
 - b. Creation groans but with longing and hope
 - c. The Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words.

Hope isn't wishful thinking—it's confident expectation

rooted in the character and promises of God.

- 4. We have freedom from fear-No Separation
 - a. God is for us v. 31
 - b. Christ died for us v. 32
 - c. God has justified us v. 33
 - d. Christ intercedes for us v. 34
 - e. Christ loves us with an inseparable love. 35-39

Romans 8:1 (NLT) So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.