

**Inner conflict – Romans 7:14-25**  
*James Muldoon - Carey Baptist Church – 1 November 2009*

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Introduction

- What do Christians tend to disagree about when they come to **Romans 7:14-25**?
- Which verses seem to show that Paul is writing from the perspective of a Christian?
- Which verses seem to show that Paul is writing from the perspective of a non-Christian?
- What did we learn in **Romans 7:7-13**?
- What is Paul chiefly illustrating in Romans 7:14-25? The \_\_\_\_\_ of the old covenant law to help people to obey. The law cannot \_\_\_\_\_ and the law cannot \_\_\_\_\_ .

The Passage

- What does **v14** teach about the law?
- What does Paul mean when he calls himself “**unspiritual**”? (The Greek word he uses is the adjectival form of the word “σὰρξ”/“sarx”, which literally means “flesh”.)
- How does Paul describe his relationship with sin?
- What does Paul say is happening to him in **v15** and **v16**?
- Is Paul trying to deny responsibility for his sin in **v17**?
- What are **v18-20** saying?
- Paul, then, is illustrating the \_\_\_\_\_ of the old covenant law to help people to obey. The law cannot \_\_\_\_\_ and the law cannot \_\_\_\_\_ .
- In **v21**, Paul says that when he wants to do good, evil is there with him. What does **v22** show about his attitude to the law?
- What are the three laws mentioned in **v23**?
- The law of Paul’s mind seems to be allied with the law of God. Which law prevails against it?
- What is behind Paul’s words in **v24**?

- What does Paul need?
- Who is the one who can meet his need in **v25**?
- So Paul teaches the \_\_\_\_\_ of the old covenant law to help people to obey. The law cannot \_\_\_\_\_ and the law cannot \_\_\_\_\_. But \_\_\_\_\_ can do both!

#### A Lesson for Christians

- Which (other?) passage teaches that Christians have an inner struggle with sin?
- What are the two sides in the battle?
- What is the first consequence of that?
- What is the second consequence of that?
- Why do new Christians often get discouraged after they have been Christians for a few months?
- Is it worth struggling on?
- What should you not do in your struggle against sin and the flesh?
- What should you do in your struggle against sin and the flesh?

#### A Lesson for Non-Christians

- If you feel the same sort of inner struggle which Paul describes here, what should you not do?
- Who is your only hope in (**v25**)?
- What must you do?