



Romans – the story so far

*For sin shall not be your master,
because you are not under law, but
under grace.*

Romans 6.14

Legalism

Legalism

- ◆ *Close adherence to law; strict conformity to law*
- ◆ *Strict adherence to law, especially to the letter rather than the spirit*
- ◆ *The judging of conduct in terms of adherence to precise laws*
- ◆ *The doctrine that salvation is gained through good works, as distinguished from that by grace*

⁴So, my brothers and sisters, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God. ⁵For when we were in the realm of the flesh, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in us, so that we bore fruit for death. ⁶But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

Romans 7.4-6

Tackling legalism

- ◆ *recognise it for what it is*

*Christ redeemed us from the
curse of the law by becoming a
curse for us...*

Galatians 3.13

Tackling legalism

- ◆ *recognise it for what it is*
- ◆ *realise that we have died to legalism just as we are dead to sin*

In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 6.11

Tackling legalism

- ◆ *recognise it for what it is*
- ◆ *realise that we have died to legalism just as we are dead to sin*
- ◆ *build up our relationship with God*



Tackling legalism

- ◆ *recognise it for what it is*
- ◆ *realise that we have died to legalism just as we are dead to sin*
- ◆ *build up our relationship with God*
- ◆ *ask God to fill us daily with his Holy Spirit*



⁷ What shall we say, then? Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, 'You shall not covet.'⁸ But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of coveting. For apart from the law, sin was dead.⁹ Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died.

Romans 7.7-9

*So then, the law is holy, and the
commandment is holy, righteous
and good.*

Romans 7.12

*I found that the very
commandment that was intended
to bring life actually brought
death.*

Romans 7.10

*Did that which is good, then,
become death to me? By no means!
Nevertheless, in order that sin might
be recognised as sin, it used what is
good to bring about my death, so
that through the commandment sin
might become utterly sinful.*

Romans 7.13

¹⁴ We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. ¹⁵ I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do....²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?

Romans 7.14-15, 24

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5.1

