

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our website at vbc.online/events for more detailed information.
You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter by contacting admin@thecrossing.org.

- Serving the Arab Refugees in Sacramento - Saturday, August 3rd
- Women's Day at Cityteam - Friday, August 9th & 26th @ 11am
- Student Sunday (Single Service @ 10am) - Sunday, August 18th
- Church at the Fairgrounds - Sunday, August 25th @ 10am
- EXTOL: Prayer & Praise - Thursday, September 5th @ 7pm
- VBC Kids Move-Up Sunday (Preschool - 5th Grade) - Sunday, September 8th

GET CONNECTED

If you're new to VBC, we're glad you're here!
Scan the QR code below to download our VBC App and get connected:



You can also get information online at www.vbc.online/new-here

SONGS & SERMONS

- "Found In You" - Paul Baloche, Andi Rozier
- "Do it Again" - Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Matt Redman, Steven Furtick
- "Goodness of God" - Ed Cash, Jenn Johnson
- "Christ Be All Around Me" - David Leonard, Jack Mooring, Leeland Mooring, Leslie Jordan
- "Jesus Paid It All" - John Thomas Grape, Elvina M. Hall, Alex Nifong

To listen or watch today's message, visit www.vbc.online/media

FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Operating Budget Need.....\$34,434.00
Y-T-D General Fund Need.....\$998,586.00

Giving Last Week.....\$34,030.00
Y-T-D Giving.....\$978,019.00

Text "valleybiblegive" 779-77 to give today.

Romans

FAITH AND RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

SUNDAY, JULY 28 2019

MUSIC: ASHLYN HUTCHESON & DAN GILLETTE | MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

MESSAGE NOTES

Are we simply a bunch of rule-keepers?
Romans 7:7-13

What has Paul already told us about the law of God?

1. No one can be justified before God by keeping the law

Rom. 3:20 *For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—*

2. Just as with justification, the believer cannot "successfully" live under a system of law.

Rom. 6:14 *For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. ¹⁵ What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!*

3. Just as we died to sin in our union with Jesus, so too the believer died to the law with Him.

Rom. 6:1 *What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?*

Rom. 7:4 *Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God.*



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Why must we have died to the law? What's the problem?

1. The law has an arousing effect on our sinful passions (7:5).

Rom. 7:5 *For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death.*

2. God designed the law to reveal the true nature of sin (7a).

Rom. 7:7a *What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin.*

3. Here's an **example** of the law's influence on sinful humans (7b-8).

Rom. 7:7b *For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet."⁸ But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead.*

- a. The law reveals what is right/wrong.
- b. The sin principle recognizes an opportunity to control.
- c. It then brings about within us a multiplicity of things to covet.

4. Here's the **process** by which the law controls sinful people (9-11).

- a. The process begins when one becomes aware of the law (9).

Rom. 7:9 *I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died.*

- b. One experiences death rather than God's intended outcome, life (10).

Rom. 7:10 *The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me.*

- c. Sin becomes our master as it uses the law to trick & destroy us (11).

Rom. 7:11 *For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me.*

5. Thus, the law is good, but our response to it reveals how sinful we are (12-13).

Rom. 7:12 *So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.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.*

If not the law, then what for the followers of Jesus?

Rom. 7:6 *But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.*

Rom 8:2 *For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*