

Died to the Law; Alive in the Spirit **Romans 7:1-6**

It's possible to think and to feel that even though you are a Christian – saved, secure, going to heaven... There is this burden of knowing you don't measure up. That burden is the law. In Rom 3:23, Paul made it clear that we are all sinners – no one, not even one, all have sinned.

Rom 6 tells us that we have died to sin.
Rom 7 tells us that we have died to the law.

As a Christian, you are not under the law, which means the law does not speak condemnation to you. The law can still prick your conscience and reveal sin and compel you toward obedience... But it cannot condemn because, as a Christian, you are not under the law.

You died to the law for the purpose of being able to belong to Jesus, Rom 7:4
You cannot belong to the law and to Jesus at the same time.

An easy mistake to make would be to think Christians don't have anything to do with the law. Notice this in our passage - *You also died to the law, Rom 7:4.*

The law didn't die. *The Christian died to the law.*

Big difference. The law did not die or change. The relationship between the Christian and the law has completely changed. You used to be under the law. Before you met Jesus, you were under the penalty of the law or the curse of the law. You were under the burdensome, crushing weight of the law.

Jesus stepped into our place and took the penalty that was due to us under the law. We can see this clearly in Galatians 3:10-14.

There's more.

Not only are we set free from the curse of the law, we have also been given the Holy Spirit, Rom 7:6.

There are two purpose statements in verse 5.

First one: *so that* you might belong to another.

Second one: *in order that* we might bear fruit for God.

The immediate purpose of dying to the law is to give you the freedom to belong to Jesus.
The long-term purpose of dying to the law is so that you might bear fruit for God.

Christianity is not about keeping a bunch of rules, it's about a person. Jesus.
Christianity is about following Jesus.