

# SERMON NOTES:

VOL 2: Part 14: The Struggle Is Real: Who Will Deliver Us?

**BIG Idea:** The real you—the one reborn in Christ—is no longer a slave to sin, but must still fight the old nature through the power of Jesus.

**Application:** Stop trying to fix yourself in your own strength—victory over sin comes only by surrendering to the Spirit and relying on Jesus.

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## **Romans 7:14-25 (NLT)**

14 So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin. 15 I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. 16 But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. 17 So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

18 And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. 19 I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. 20 But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

21 I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. 22 I love God's law with all my heart. 23 But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. 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.

The holy nature of God and the sinful nature of man are not compatible with each other.

The realization that certain behaviors are wrong is evidence that my nature has been changed and the Holy Spirit is restoring my conscience before God.

This conflict between our new nature and the old me is why our Christian lives are inconsistent.

## **2 Corinthians 5:14-15,17 (NLT)**

Either way, Christ's love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. 15 He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them...17This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

**Galatians 2:20 (NLT)**

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

**When you as a Christian sin, you are violating your new nature. It is consistent with your new nature to live a life of righteousness and holiness.**

**Galatians 5:16-17 (NLT)**

So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. 17 The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions.

**Jeremiah 17:9-10 (NLT)**

"The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is? 10 But I, the Lord, search all hearts and examine secret motives. I give all people their due rewards, according to what their actions deserve."

**He's now at a place of desperation where he's realizing that it's going to take something outside of himself to fix this.**

**I can't fix this problem, it can only come through the power of God.**

**Matthew 5:3 (NLT)**

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**25a Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.**