



# KINGDOM EMBASSY MINISTRIES

Remembering our Roots. Restoring Authority. Maturing Disciples. Advancing the Kingdom.

Portion:

## SCRIPTURES

- Romans 7:15-25
- I Corinthians 2:11-12
- Ephesians 1:19-20; 4:29
- II Corinthians 5:17

Title:

## SHARDS OF HISTORY

- Diary of a Metamorphosis
- Two Spirits
- Two Laws
- One Solution One Resolution

## SEED:

"For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. **Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.**" Romans 7:19-20 NKJV

## FRUIT:

"O wretched man that I am! **Who will deliver me from this body of death?** I thank God—through **Jesus Christ our Lord!** So then, **with the mind I myself serve the law of God,** but **with the flesh the law of sin.**" Romans 7:24-25 NKJV

## INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S MESSAGE:

*This is the diary of a man in the process of discovering what it means to be born-again and empowered by the Holy Spirit. To twenty-first century Christians, these struggles appear almost commonplace. We saw the Reformation over five-hundred years ago; we can recall countless Holy Spirit revivals throughout history; we've experienced many types of movements in Christianity: Prayer, Charismatic, Prophetic, Pentecostal, Messianic, and Hebrew Roots, to name a few; and we have study bibles, bible programs and apps; a myriad of Christian books, curriculums, and study guides; Christian television, radio, magazines, music, and the internet; and we have churches on every corner, over three-hundred thousand of them in the United States alone. You get the picture?*

*However, Paul is the first man alive to sort through and commit to words what took place in us when the great transaction occurred, ideas and words that have become part of the common vernacular for those whose lives Christ exchanged for His own. Let's examine Paul's struggle to discover just what happened to each of us when we got knocked off our feet in the great exchange.*

*The last part of Romans seven is like taking a peek into the diary of a man on a long journey. Think carefully about your own life and history, contemplate any important event, and then consider if you were called to write about it. The words could hardly compare to the details of the actual story. Words can't do justice to the seconds, minutes, and hours of reality. Sure we can overview life in snapshots, key moments*

*and highlights, shards of history, but the minute details of reality can never be chronicled sufficiently, for any historical event, even one in your own life.*

*Consider a soldier at war, for instance. There are key battles, strategic moments, memorial dates, and history-deciding losses and victories. And in that one soldier's life, in his mind, he endured the expanded nano-seconds of time—an ongoing personal reality, but hidden from recorded history: the fears, the suffering, the cold, the pain, the doubt, the hope, the confusion, and the terrible longing for his loved ones. He experienced every continuous moment, reality that history never recorded. And this is but one soldier. Can you feel it?*

*Now, take a look back at Paul's struggle, his dilemma. You are reading an encapsulation. He is opening his diary and allowing us to see, and possibly feel, the highlights of his journey of discovery; "Who will deliver me from this body of death?" Yes, it all comes down to this journal entry; "Thank you Father, your Son has already delivered me from this struggle. I get it now, my old flesh serves the law of sin; but, the new man, born-again in Christ, serves the laws of my God."*

*And then the great question for all of us. Do we join Paul in his struggle, or do we join him in his discovery, his victory? You have his diary entries to draw from; why repeat his mistakes? Choose now to agree with the law of sin that has you doing things you know you shouldn't and neglecting things you know you should, or live as the new creature and serve the laws of God who sent His Son to die for you that you might be born-again and filled with His grace.*

## DIARY OF A METAMORPHOSIS

### 1. Identity Transfiguration

#### A. A Complete Transformation...

(1) Once a carnal man, but now I am a new creation.

(a) The Romans Road of Transformation!

1. "Therefore **we were buried with Him** through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so **we also should walk in newness of life.**" Romans 6:4 NKJV
2. "knowing this, that our **old man was crucified with Him**, that the **body of sin might be done away with**, that we should **no longer be slaves of sin.**" Romans 6:6 NKJV
3. "Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be **dead indeed to sin**, but **alive to God** in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:11 NKJV
4. "And having been **set free from sin**, you became **slaves of righteousness.**" Romans 6:18 NKJV
5. "But now having been **set free from sin**, and having become **slaves of God**, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life." Romans 6:22 NKJV

6. "But now we have been **delivered from the law**, having **died to what we were held by**, so that we should **serve in the newness of the Spirit** and not in the oldness of the letter." Romans 7:6 NKJV
  7. "For we know that **the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.**" Romans 7:14 NKJV
  8. "So then, **with the mind** I myself **serve the law of God** [One Resolution], but **with the flesh the law of sin.**" Romans 7:25 NKJV
  9. "But **you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit**, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. And **if Christ is in you, the body is dead** because of sin, but **the Spirit is life** because of righteousness." Romans 8:9-10 NKJV
  10. "And **do not be conformed** to this world, **but be transformed** by the **renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:2 NKJV
- (b) The Mind of Christ
1. "Now we have received, **not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God**, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God." I Corinthians 2:12 NKJV
  2. "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! **How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! "For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor [Isaiah 40:13]?"**" Romans 11:33-34 NKJV
  3. "For **"who has known the mind of the Lord** that he may instruct Him?" But **we have the mind of Christ.**" I Corinthians 2:16 NKJV
  4. "For the **weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God** for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, **bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ**, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled." II Corinthians 10:4-6 NKJV

## **B. The Journey to the Mind of Christ**

(1) Paul's transformation began with...

(a) A light, a voice, and two questions!

1. "As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly **a light shone** around him from heaven. Then he **fell to the ground**, and **heard a voice** saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" And he said, **"Who are You, Lord?"** Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads." So

he, trembling and astonished, said, **“Lord, what do You want me to do?”** Then the Lord said to him, “Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”” Acts 9:3-6 NKJV

2. “And the Angel of **the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush.** So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. Then Moses said, **“I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.”**” Exodus 3:2-3 NKJV
3. “So when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” **And he said, “Here I am.”**” Exodus 3:4 NKJV
4. “Moreover He said, **“I am** the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.” Exodus 3:6 NKJV
5. “Come now, therefore, and **I will send you** to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”” Exodus 3:10 NKJV
6. “Then Moses said to God, “Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they say to me, **‘What is His name?’** what shall I say to them?” And God said to Moses, **“I AM WHO I AM.”** And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ”” Exodus 3:13-14 NKJV

(2) It took Paul 14 years of preparation.

(a) He was sorting out the very message we are seeing here in Romans.

1. **“Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem** with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me.” Galatians 2:1 NKJV

(3) Paul endured horrific persecution and suffering.

(a) It culminated with this revelation!

1. “Then Jews from Antioch and Iconium came there; and having persuaded the multitudes, **they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead.**” Acts 14:19 NKJV
2. “strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, **“We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”**” Acts 14:22 NKJV

(4) The radical transformation that took place in Paul yielded this understanding!

(a) We too must come to this understanding!

1. “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and **you are not your own? For you were bought at a price;**

therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." I Corinthians 6:19-20 NKJV

2. "I have been crucified with Christ; **it is no longer I who live**, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh **I live by faith** in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Galatians 2:20 NKJV

(b) You are a NEW CREATION

1. Therefore, if **anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." II Corinthians 5:17 NKJV
2. "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, **but a new creation.**" Galatians 6:15 NKJV
3. "But you have not so learned Christ, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you **put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man** which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and **be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God**, in true righteousness and holiness." Ephesians 4:20-24 NKJV
4. "Do not lie to one another, since **you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed** in knowledge according to the **image of Him who created him**," Colossians 3:9-10 NKJV
5. "For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in **doing the will of the Gentiles**—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries." I Peter 4:3 NKJV

## TWO SPIRITS

### 2. The Diary of an Inner Struggle

#### A. The inner struggle validates the goodness of God's commands...

(1) A Contiguous Message

(a) The Law is good; I'm the one with the problem.

1. "For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but **what I hate, that I do**. If, then, I do what I will not to do, **I agree with the law that it is good.**" Romans 7:15-16 NKJV
2. "Therefore **the law is holy**, and the commandment holy and **just and good.**" Romans 7:12 NKJV
3. "**The law is spiritual**, but **I am carnal**, sold under sin." Romans 7:14 NKJV
4. Don't mistake what is being said here:

5. "Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom also we have access by faith into this grace** in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2 NKJV
6. "Now **by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments**. He who says, "I know Him," **and does not keep His commandments, is a liar**, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. **He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.**" 1 John 2:3-6 NKJV

## **B. The one struggling isn't me!**

### (1) The Inner Struggle

(a) Sin in the believer comes from the old nature which is no longer who you are.

1. "But now, **it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me**. For I know that in me (that is, **in my flesh**) **nothing good dwells**; for **to will is present** with me, but how **to perform** what is good **I do not find**. For **the good that I will to do, I do not do**; but **the evil I will not to do, that I practice**. Now if I do what I will not to do, **it is no longer I** who do it, but **sin that dwells in me**." Romans 7:17-20 NKJV
2. "For what man knows the things of a man **except the spirit of the man** which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, **but the Spirit who is from God**, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God." 1 Corinthians 2:11-12 NKJV
3. "For you **did not receive the spirit of bondage again** to fear, but **you received the Spirit of adoption** by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."" Romans 8:15 NKJV
4. "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, **who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit**." Romans 8:1 NKJV
5. **Not a Sinner**: "Whoever has been born of God **does not sin**, for His seed remains in him; and **he cannot sin**, because he has been born of God." 1 John 3:9 NKJV
6. **Called a Saint**: "To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are **sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints**, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:" 1 Corinthians 1:2 NKJV (and 14 other times in the New Testament)
7. "He who does not love does not know God, for **God is love**." 1 John 4:8 NKJV
8. "Behold **what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us**, that we should be called children of God! ..." 1 John 3:1 NKJV
9. "Therefore, as **the elect of God, holy and beloved**, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;" Colossians 3:12 NKJV
10. "We love Him **because He first loved us**." 1 John 4:19 NKJV

11. "Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which **Christ has made us free**, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage." Galatians 5:1 NKJV
12. "And you shall know the truth, and **the truth shall make you free**." John 8:32 NKJV
13. "and what is the exceeding greatness of **His power toward us who believe**, according to the working of His mighty power **which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places," Ephesians 1:19-20 NKJV
14. "Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom also we have access by faith into this grace** in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2 NKJV
15. Therefore, if **anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." II Corinthians 5:17 NKJV
16. "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, **that it may impart grace to the hearers**." Ephesians 4:29 NKJV

## TWO LAWS

### 3. The Law of God and the Law of Sin

#### A. Two Sets of Rules

(1) Two laws at odds with one another

(a) As a born-again Christian, two spirits dwell within you and each animates its own set of rules.

1. "I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. For I **delight in the law of God** according to the **inward man**. But I see **another law** in my members, **warring against the law of my mind**, and bringing me into captivity to **the law of sin** which is in my members." Romans 7:21-23 NKJV
2. "that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who **do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit**. For **those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh**, but **those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit**. For to be **carnally minded** is death, but to be **spiritually minded** is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. **But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit**, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His." Romans 8:4-9 NKJV

## ONE SOLUTION ONE RESOLUTION

#### 4. Who Has Delivered Me?

##### A. One Savior One Law

(1) Freedom is having no other choice!

(a) When you recognize how wretched is the old nature in you that loves sin, you will appreciate all the more that you are no longer that person.

1. **"O wretched man** that I am! **Who will deliver me from this body of death?** I thank God **—through Jesus Christ** our Lord [One Solution]! So then, **with the mind** I myself **serve the law of God** [One Resolution], but **with the flesh the law of sin.**" Romans 7:24-25 NKJV

2. ***"Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?"*** Romans 6:16 NKJV