

I Can't (Step #1)

Romans 7:14-25

April 26th, 2026

PROLOGUE

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Romans 7:14

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.

Romans 7:15

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.

Romans 7:16

But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good.

Romans 7:17

So, I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

Romans 7:18

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.

Romans 7:19

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.

Romans 7:20

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.

Romans 7:21

I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong.

Romans 7:22

I love God's law with all my heart.

Romans 7:23

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.

Romans 7:24

Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death?

Romans 7:25

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 Christian life (following
Jesus) is NOT hard ...

... it IS impossible!

The Problem ... SIN

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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.

The Result ... I CAN'T!

Romans 7:24

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Application

I admit that, despite all appearances, I am NOT fine.

Application

We may be helpless, but we are
not hopeless.

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