



Life In the Balance - Romans 7 - Civil War

1. I have a NEW NATURE.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

2. I still have an OLD NATURE.

Ephesians 4:22 (NIV) You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;

Galatians 5:16-17 (NIV) So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. ¹⁷ For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

Five Key Conclusions for winning this Civil War:

1. I have a problem.

Verse 14 We know that the Law is spiritual but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin.

My biggest problem is NOT the devil.

2. I'm confused.

Verse 15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.



Two Perplexing Questions:

3. I'm frustrated.

Verses 17-18 As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸ I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.

4. I'm in a battle and I'm losing.

Verse 21 So now I find this law at work. When I want to do good, evil is right there with me for in my inner being I delight in God's law. But I see another law at work in the members of my body waging war against the law of my mind making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work in my members.

5. I'm at the end of my rope.

Verse 24 What a wretched man that I am. Who will rescue me from this body of death?"

Verse 25 (MSG) The answer, thank God, is that Jesus Christ can and does. He acted to set things right in this life of contradictions where I want to serve God with all my heart and mind, but am pulled by the influence of sin to do something totally different.