

The Inner Man, part 11

I. The inner man pictures results of being “born again.”

1. At salvation each believer is indwelt by the three Persons of the Godhead.
 - 1) The Father emphasizes participation in the Divine nature resulting in **new desires** (2 Pet. 1:4; Phil. 2:130)
 - 2) The Son emphasizes eternal life and the **mind of Christ** providing a new thinking faculty (1 Jn. 5:11-12; 1 Cor. 2:16).
 - 3) The Holy Spirit brings **strong desires** to the Christian's new mind (Gal. 5:16-18).
2. The inner man is spiritual: not seen (2 Cor. 4:16-18).
3. After salvation the Christian still has a sin nature (1 Jn. 1:8; Gal. 5:17).

II. Romans 7:14-25: two natures, two desirous wills.

1. Paul lived under grace after his New Testament conversion.
2. Paul became carnal as he turned from grace to go back under The Law (Rom. 7:7-9)
3. Paul was dominated by his sin nature (Rom. 7:14).

III. Romans 7:14-16 verse by verse.

1. V. 14. Paul is carnal—sin nature dominating his actions.
2. V. 15. Paul's sin nature works out what his new nature does not desire to do: hates non-violently.
3. V. 16. Paul's sin nature does, by design, what his new nature does not desire to do. His new nature agrees that The Law is useful during his carnal state.
4. V. 17. No longer is his new nature working because of the sin nature that indwells him.
5. V. 18. “flesh” is where the sin nature is housed, it has no inner pleasure, since the sin nature contradicts the new nature.
6. Vv. 19-20. His new nature never wins.
7. V. 21. The sin nature actively subterfuges his new nature.
8. V. 22. Real lasting pleasure is according to the inner man—the rule of God.
9. V. 23. The sin nature wars against the mind of Christ. He was captive to the sin nature.

III. (Key: *n.n.*= new nature; *s.n.*= sin nature)

14. For I indeed know intellectually the Law is spiritual, but **I am carnal, having been sold under the sin nature.** **15. For what I (the sin nature) work out,** I (the new nature) do not know experientially. For what I (*n.n.*) do not desirously will, **I (s.n.) practice;** but what I (*n.n.*) am hating non-violently, **I (s.n.) am doing.** **16. But since I (s.n.) am doing** what I (*n.n.*) do not desirously will, I (*n.n.*) agree with the Law (Mosaic) that it is useful in this **carnal state.** **17.** But now it is no longer I (*n.n.*) **working it out, but the sin nature (s.n.) that indwells me.** **18.** For I (*n.n.*) know intellectually that **no inner sense of happiness dwells in me (s.n.), that is in my flesh (s.n.):** for the desirous will (*n.n.*) is present in me; **but how to work out the proper thing is not.** **19.** But what good I (*n.n.*) desirously will, I (**s.n.**) **am not doing; to the contrary, what evil I (n.n.)** am not desirously willing, **this I (s.n.) am practicing.** **20.** But since what I (*n.n.*) do not desirously will, **I (s.n.) am doing,** it is no longer I (*n.n.*) that works it out, but, **on the contrary, the sin nature dwelling in me (s.n.).** **21.** I (*n.n.*) find then a principle (*law*, KJV) that when I (*n.n.*) desirously will to do the proper **thing the evil (s.n.) is present in me.** **22.** For I (*n.n.*) delight in the rule of God for Christians (*law*, KJV) after the inner man **23.** I (*n.n.*) find then **a principle in my members warring against** the principle (*law*, KJV) of my mind (*n.n.*) and taking me (*n.n.*) **captive by the principle of the sin nature which is in my members (s.n.)** (Rom. 7:14-23).

- Use of the present tense.
- A nature produces desires, desires act upon lust, and this thought activity affects action.
- Sin nature indwells the body—flesh.
- Sin nature always wins the battle when the Christian is unaided by the Holy Spirit.
- The rule of God comes in the inner man.