

Communion Talk at Calvary

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(Member)

Sunday 15th March 2026
6:30pm

Topic: The Conflict Within: Christ Our Victory

Main Text: Rom 7:7-25



Nations in Conflict

- Recent times have seen various kinds of conflict; regions, nations, socio- ethnic groups, etc.
- What begins simple, escalates into huge crises or war over time when not addressed

- Personal grievances can snowball into full scale external conflict...
- There is constant internal conflict as human beings
- Making life-defining choices of varying degrees.

- **The believer in Christ...**
- Internal struggle:
- Yielding to the Spirit or gratifying the desires of the flesh.
- ***The*** [Apostle Paul]'s experience ...
- (Pedestalising)

Context Setting/Background: The Roman Society

- Roman Empire ruled by Nero (AD 54-68)
- Society was composed of Romans, Greeks, Jews, and other ethnic groups.
- Social hierarchy was rigid: patricians, freedmen, slaves
- Church demographics reflected this society; The book makes these distinctions across several chapters

Context Setting/Background: The Text

- Letter written by Apostle Paul in AD 57–58.
- **Chapters 5** (Justification by faith not by the law)
- **Chapter 6** (Justification by faith should not be license for sin, but a life wholly surrendered to God)
- **Chapter 7** (Acknowledges the battle within; Struggling to please the Lord versus fleshly desires; Christ our victory, delivering us from sin's bondage).

1. The righteous law and Sin's Exploitation (vv.7-12)

- Law described as 'holy', 'righteous' and 'good' (v12)
- Moral codes ; Moral Code giver
- Standards are good; Life needs to have boundaries
(From the beginning)
- A picture of 'the ideal'

Cont'd

- The problem of sin; Sin took advantage of the law to put one to death
- Note: Several references to self; 'I's and 'me's
- Undertone of personal (unsuccessful) effort towards righteousness through the law.

2. The battle is real (vv.14-20)

- The reality of the typical Christian experience
- The internal struggle: Choice between righteousness and evil.
- Feeling of inadequacy especially at the Lord's table

Note: No human act of righteousness/works attains God's holiness.

Remember; The believer's righteousness is **imputed**; credited to us through grace in Christ (Rom 4:5-8).

3. The Victory is in Christ (vv.21-25)

- The Cross; Salvation (v 25)
- Christ won *for* us
- We engage *from* victory, not *for* victory
- 1Cor.15:57:

“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ”

Contextualisation and Application:

- Struggle against fleshly desires is a reality of the Christian experience;
- Let us be reminded that in Christ, we have victory;
- This same Christ dwells in us through His spirit

Cont'd

- **God's redemptive power** has defeated sin's power, grip and hold on the believer
- In **the cross** of Christ is liberation. (v 25)
- True freedom is in Christ; not in conforming to worldliness (Rom. 12:2)

Cont'd

Our part to play;

- Col. 3:1-14; things to put off/to death vs put on/clothe yourselves
- Gal. 5:16 – 22; Fruit of the Spirit vs works of the flesh.
 - ❖ What is fed grows, what is starved dies

Conclusion

- **As we commune;**
- Implication; Not slaves (of sin), but ‘sons’ (of God) –
(Confirmed in Gal. 4:7)
- Come to your father’s table with boldness to
communion
- Reflect on our victory in Christ - power of sin is broken

- We are free!
- To live as we ought to
- POSSIBLE ONLY THROUGH THE POWER OF THE
HOLY SPIRIT WHO LIVES IN US, BECAUSE OF THE
BLOOD SHED FOR US!