

Romans 7 (Part 2) :14-25 Study Notes • "Who Will Deliver Us?"

Read the Passage: Romans 7: 14-25

- What is the PRIMARY message of these last verses of the chapter?
- **Re-read verse 18** (see if anyone has a different translation) - How does this verse differ from what the world believes?

A closer look: Human GOODNESS. Some people get really confused when they read verses like Romans 7:18 that declares that mankind is NOT good. They struggle with this because they see people doing what they consider to be good things. Their natural assumption is that because people DO good things, they must, therefore BE good.

And yet, Jesus reiterated this truth in the Gospel when He said to the rich, young ruler: "**No one is good except God alone.**" (Mark 10:18)

- So HOW IS IT that people can act good, or DO good things...if they aren't actually good themselves??

Read Genesis 3: 1-5 for insight into man's ability to know what is good and how to emulate goodness.

- Satan tempted Eve with gaining knowledge. What knowledge did he say she and Adam would receive if they took and ate the fruit?

Adam and Eve *did* actually gain a knowledge of good and evil, but in the process they got way more than they bargained for. But this passage shows us where mankind received this "knowledge." And with the knowledge of good, mankind is able to "act" good, or even to DO good things. But this knowledge doesn't actually MAKE us good.

Going deeper in our understanding:

- Look up and read aloud **Jeremiah 17:9**
- How does this verse enlarge on what Paul is saying in Romans 7?
- Why did the Apostle Paul say, "Wretched man that I am!" ?
- How can you identify a Christian who is trying to live in the power of their own strength?

Look up and read aloud **John 6:63** -

What does Jesus mean when He says "**the flesh is no help at all**" and what connection can you see between this verse and what Paul is saying in Romans 7?

Questions for applying this passage:

- How should the understanding of your wretched condition affect your prayer life?
- How should this passage affect the way you trust other people?
- What is going to change about the way you approach God?