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## We Have Freedom

By Johnny Caruso January 31, 2024

### **TODAY'S READING:** Romans 7

While reading in Romans chapter seven, I came across a note I had written in the margin of one of my many Bibles. (If your spirituality was measured by how many Bibles you own, I would be Billy Graham). It said, "What does it mean to be a Christian? What is a Christian supposed to be like?" I tried to remember where and why I wrote those questions down, but I couldn't.

As I read the first six verses of the chapter, I couldn't help but think, "These verses answer those questions!" Chapter seven gives us a pretty good idea of what it means to be a Christian and what that life looks like! Remember that, up to this point, Paul has been telling us that law and faith are contradictory: The law leads to death and faith leads to life. "Then what do we do with the law? What is the right place for the law in Christian discipleship now that Jesus has come?"

The main point Paul wanted to get across to them was this: Because of their faith in Christ, they had been set free from the obligations of the Law. They were no longer bound to it. Christ's death set them free to bear fruit for God. This is what the Christian life is all about.

Paul made it clear in the passage that the Law does not, and cannot, bring victory over sin and death, since sin is defined and even promoted through the Law. However, those who have died with Christ are set free from sin and the law. Being free in Christ means we do not live by obeying a set of rules. Remember, we cannot earn God's grace because we fall short of His righteousness. Instead we live out of a new heart and mind that overflow with

love for God. The truth is, you have died to your sinful nature; it no longer has control over you and you now live by the new way of the Spirit.

**PRAYER:** Lord, thank You for setting us free, and we are no longer slaves to our sinful nature but are now slaves to righteousness.

**TOMORROW'S READING:** 1 Corinthians 13

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