

FUNCTION OF THE LAW — RO.7:7-13

1 REVEALS SIN

— **Ro.7:7**

- 📖 “I would not have known sin except through the law” 📖 “I would not have known covetousness”
- ▶ Paul is talking about the moral Law.
 - ▶ This is where the path to salvation begins. “By the law is the knowledge of sin” (Ro.3:20).
 - ▶ Paul uses himself as an example concerning the Law. It is the work of the law to show his sin.
 - ▶ Paul’s assessment before he was saved is that he was blameless (Ph.3:6).
 - ▶ What leads people to true salvation is an overpowering sense of breaking God's Law.

2 ROUSES SIN

— **Ro.7:8**

- 📖 “produced in me all manner of evil desire” 📖 “For apart from the law sin was dead”
- ▶ The Law arouses more sin. We begin to see the reality of sin in our lives.
 - ▶ “I did not think I was a coveter. Then I saw the Law. Wow; I am a coveter.”
 - ▶ It is not the Law that produces the coveting. It is the SIN in us that is aroused.
 - ▶ Sin, when exposed to the Law inflames sin in us. We become more aware. Sin begets sin.

3 RUINS THE SINNER

— **Ro.7:9-11**

- 📖 “I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died” (v.9)
📖 “I found to bring death” (v.10) 📖 “sin... deceived me, and by it killed me” (v.11)
- ▶ Once Paul was able to line up his heart against the Law conviction fell upon him.
 - ▶ Paul's settled life became unsettled. Sin became alive.
 - ▶ Paul once had no real sense of guilt. When brought to the Law, sin was awakened.

4 REFLECTS THE SINFULNESS OF SIN

— **Ro.7:12-13**

- 📖 “Therefore the law is holy” (v.12) 📖 “But sin, that it might appear sin” (v.13)
📖 “so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful” (v.13)
- ▶ The Law shows sin to be what it is: a deception.
 - ▶ The more people know about the Law, the more they understand the deceitfulness of sin.
 - ▶ Sin can take something as good as the Law, and produce wickedness resulting in destruction.