

“Testimonies keep the church alive.”

-.001.tiff

¹⁴For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

-.002.tiff

¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

-.003.tiff

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

-.004.tiff

²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

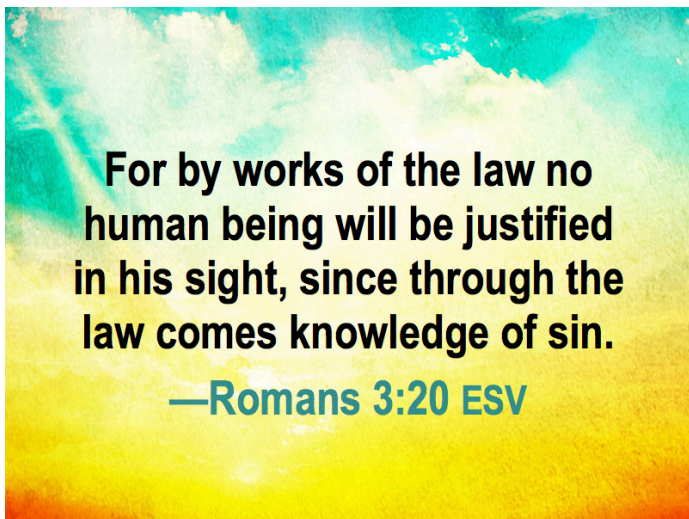
—Romans 7:14-25 ESV

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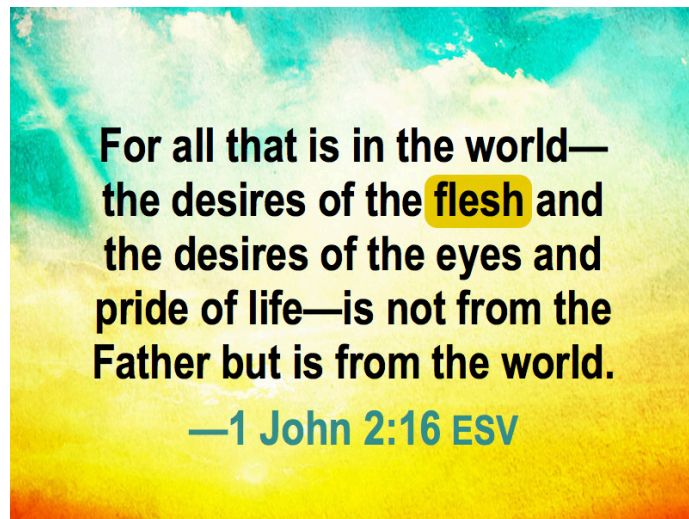
“It was as if two men were inside the one skin, pulling in different directions. He was haunted by this feeling of frustration, his ability to see what was good and his inability to do it; his ability to recognize what was wrong and his inability to refrain from doing it.”

—William Barclay

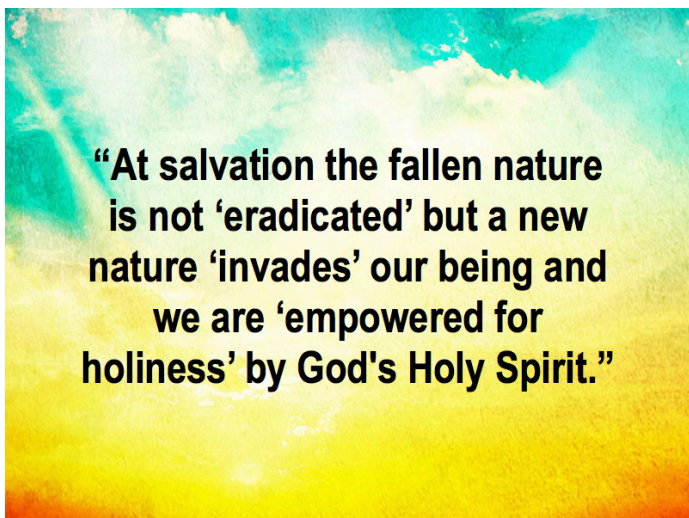
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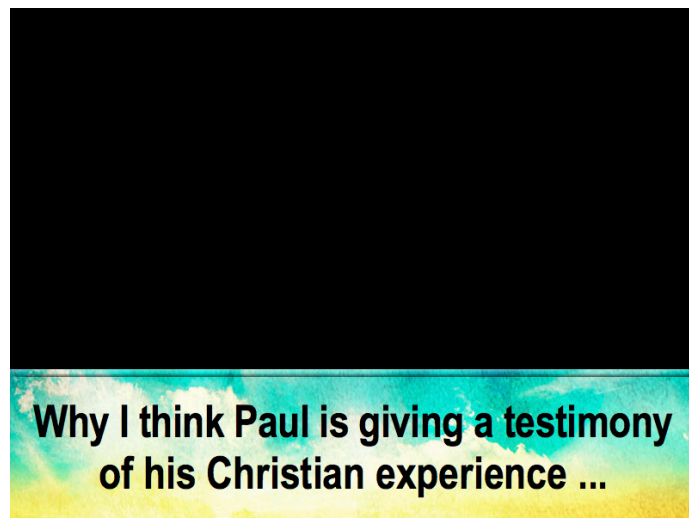
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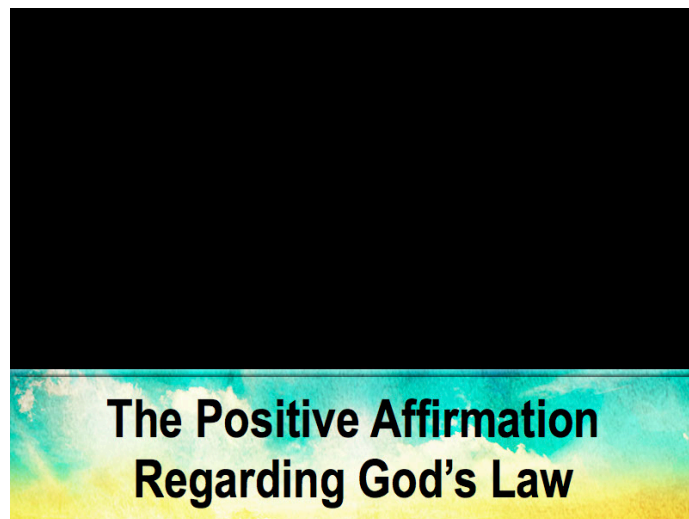
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For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being... —Romans 7:22 ESV

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The Personal Confession of His Condition

-.014.tiff

For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. —Romans 7:18 ESV

-.015.tiff

The Parallel Instruction in Galatians

-.016.tiff

You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? —Galatians 5:7 ESV

-.017.tiff

¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. —Galatians 5:7, 16-18 ESV

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The Practical Expression of Paul's Struggle

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**²⁴Wretched man that I am!
Who will deliver me from this
body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to
God through Jesus Christ our
Lord! So then, I myself serve the
law of God with my mind,
but with my flesh I serve the law
of sin. —Romans 7:24-25 ESV**

-.020.tiff

**“Behind every self-defeating
behavior is a lie I am believing.”**

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**My flesh reminds me,
> human knowledge is inadequate.
> human resolution is insufficient.
> human assessment is incomplete.**

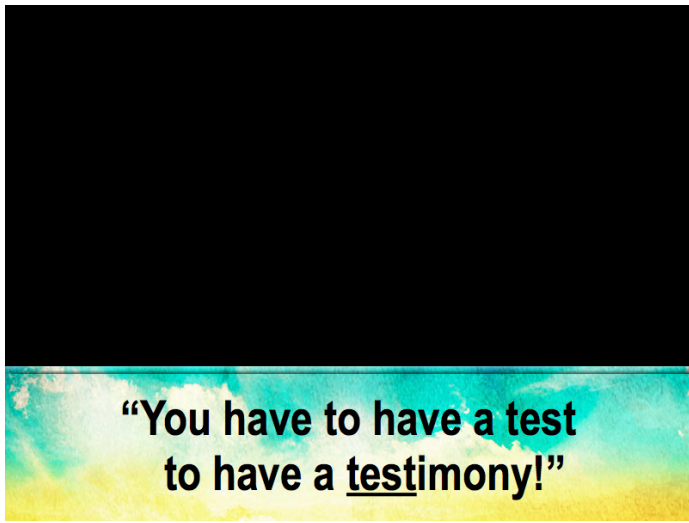
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**Thanks be to God through Jesus
Christ our Lord! —Romans 7:25 ESV**

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**“To stop practices of self-defeat,
I must stop patterns of self-deceit.”**

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