

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 6-27-10 PM NOTES
"THE WAR WITHIN"
ROMANS 7:14-25
#35 in Series, "Verse by Verse through Romans"

Who Is the "I" of Romans 7:14-25? There Are Three Possibilities:

1. The "I" of Romans 7:14-25 Is Unsaved

Romans 6:7 (NKJV) "For he who has died has been freed from sin."

Philippians 3:6b (NKJV) "...concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless."

Romans 8:7 (NKJV) "Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be."

"Paul's shift from the past tense to the present tense in verse 14 has no natural explanation save that he now moves on from talking about his experience with God's law in his pre-Christian days to talking about his experience as it was at the time of writing."

—J. I. Packer

2. The "I" of Romans 7:14-25 Is a Carnal Christian

Romans 10:9 (ESV) "because, if you confess with your mouth that **Jesus is Lord** and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

3. The "I" of Romans 7:14-25 Is a Christian Who Is Struggling with Sin

Romans 7:15 (ESV) "For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate."

I. In the War Within, the Law Cannot Sanctify Us (v. 14)

Romans 6:12 (NKJV) "Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts."

Galatians 5:1 (NKJV) "Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage."

II. In the War Within, the Law Cannot Strengthen Us (vv. 15-21)

Romans 7:21 (NASB) "I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good."

III. In the War Within, We Need a Power Beyond Ourselves (vv. 22-25)