

DEFEATING THE ENEMY INSIDE OF ME, Pt. 1
Series: Spiritual Bootcamp
Romans 7:15-25
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Kelly Stanley

There Are Three Battles We Are Fighting . .

1. The battle inside you.
2. The battle around you.
3. The battle against you.

I Will Experience Frustration and Failure When I . . .

- a. When I try to _____.
- b. When I try to _____ from bad to good by _____.

What Are The Emotional Costs of This Battle Going On Inside of Me?

1. _____.

† Romans 7:15, "I don't understand myself at all, for I really want to do what is right, but I can't. I do what I don't want to – what I hate" (TLB).

- Romans 7 is about the defeated Christian life and Romans 8 is about the victorious Christian life. In Romans 7, Paul uses the word "I" over and over and over. In fact, in just twelve verses he uses the word "I" _____ times. He uses the word "my" _____ times. He uses the word "me" _____ times. He uses the word "myself" _____ times. All in all, Paul uses the first person pronouns _____ times in twelve verses.

2. _____ and _____.

† Romans 7:16, "I know perfectly well what I'm doing is wrong. And my bad conscience proves that I agree with these laws I am breaking" (TLB).

- "Conscience" comes from the combination of two Latin words: "con" which means "_____ " in Latin, and "science" in Latin which means "_____." Conscience means you do something with full knowledge that what you're doing is _____. You're not kidding yourself.

† Matthew 26:38, 40, 41b, "He told them, 'My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with Me' . . . ⁴⁰Then He returned to the disciples and found them asleep. He said to Peter, "Couldn't you watch with me even one hour? . . . ⁴¹The spirit is willing but the body is weak" (NLT).

3. _____ and _____.

† Romans 7:17, "But I can't help myself because I'm no longer doing it. It is sin inside me that is stronger than I am that makes me do these evil things" (TLB).

† Hebrews 11:25, "' . . . the pleasures of sin for a season" (KJV).

4. _____.

† Romans 7:18a, "I know I am rotten through and through so far as my old sinful nature is concerned" (TLB).

5. _____.

† Romans 7:18b-19, "No matter which way I turn I can't make myself do right. I want to but I can't. ¹⁹When I want to do good, I don't; when I try not to do wrong, I do it anyway. ²⁰If I'm doing what I don't want to do, it's plain where the trouble is: sin has me in its evil grasp" (TLB)..

6. _____ and _____.

† Romans 7:21, 23b "It seems to be a fact of life that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong . . . ²³In my mind I want to be God's willing servant, but instead I find myself still enslaved to sin" (TLB).

- What is the cause of this battle that's going on in you? The reason is I have _____.
- † *Romans 7:22-23a*, "I love to do God's will so far as my new nature is concerned; ²³but there is something else deep within me, in my lower nature, that is at war with my mind and wins the fight and makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me" (TLB).
- † *Romans 7:24a*, "So you see how it is: my new life tells me to do right, but the old nature that is still inside me loves to sin. Oh, what a terrible predicament I'm in!" (TLB).
- The actual Greek New Testament word for "terrible predicament" is [ταλαίπωρος; talaipōros]. This word was used in two ways: to refer to being exhausted from _____ and being worn out from fighting in an intense _____.

How Do I Defeat The Enemy Inside of Me?

1. I must _____.

- † *Romans 7:24-25*, "Who will free me from this life? Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and this body of death? ²⁵Thank God! The answer is through Jesus Christ, our Lord" (NLT).
- Christ doesn't just want to be _____ in your life. He wants to be _____ in your life. He doesn't want to just be _____ in your life. He wants to be in _____ of your life. For Jesus to be "Lord" of you life means you have sign hanging around your neck that says, "_____." In the original Greek it is literally says, "Who will free me from this body of death?"
- In Romans 7:24-25, Paul doesn't say, "What will free me?" Because the answer to the battle in you is not a principle, it's not a program, it's not a pill, it's a _____ — _____.

2. I must _____.

- † *1 John 1:8*, "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us" (NIV).

Behind Every Lie I Am Believing . . .

a. Are _____ that are visible, if not to me, to others.

- † *Jeremiah 17:9*, "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?" (NIV).

b. Is the worst form of deception — _____. I must become a person of _____.

- † *1 Corinthians 3:18*, "Do not let yourselves be lied to through self-deception" (PAR).
- The truth will make you both _____ and _____ as long as you deny it.
- † *John 8:44*, "The devil was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies" (NLT).
- † *John 14:6*, "I am the way, the truth and the life . . ." (NLT).

3. I must _____.

- _____ your _____ is the beginning of _____.
- † *James 5:16*, "Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so God can heal you. When a believing person prays, great things happen" (NCV).
- † *Galatians 5:16*, "Let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves" (NLT).
- In Romans 8 the word "Holy Spirit, the Spirit" is mentioned _____ times. That's the difference.
- The Holy Spirit does two primary things for me: (a) He does the things for me that I _____ (b) He gives me the _____.
- † *Philippians 2:13*, "For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases Him" (NLT).