

ekklesiafellowship.org

The Christian and the Law

Three good things the Law does: *Romans 7:7-13*

1. The Law reveals sin as sin.
2. The Law provokes sin.
3. The Law brings us to the end of ourselves.

a home for the hungry of heart...

ekklesiafellowship.org

The Great Who

How can I resolve the struggle within myself?
Romans 7:14-25

- Who is the man of *Romans 7*?
 1. An unsaved person
 2. A "carnal Christian"
 3. A person who has come under conviction as a result of the Holy Spirit's work in his/her life, but who is not yet born again
 4. A mature Christian.
 - Paul is clearly talking about himself! A mature Christian.
 - This is our struggle! This is my struggle.
 - *Romans 6:6* "our old self was crucified ... that our body of sin might be done away with"
 - *Romans 6:12,13* "do not go on presenting..."

a home for the hungry of heart...

ekklesiafellowship.org

The Great Who

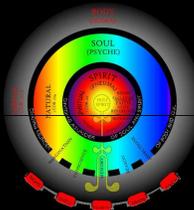
Though we are freed from sin's power, we are not freed from its presence in our lives.
Let's review the scripture's view of man to see how this can make sense in our own lives.

- *Genesis 1:26* - "in Our image"
- *Hebrews 4:12* - "the division of soul and spirit"
- *1 Thessalonians 5:23* - God's desire is that we be complete (or whole); body, soul, and spirit.
 - This is not a "definition" of man, but a representation of the whole man.
 - We are spirit, we have a soul, we live in a body

a home for the hungry of heart...

ekklesiafellowship.org

The Great Who



Romans 6:17 - "were slaves"
Romans 7:14 "sold into bondage to sin"

How do we resolve this?

- *v.14* - the Law is spiritual!
- It is in our spirit that we are made slaves to righteousness, while in our soul the struggle with sin goes on.

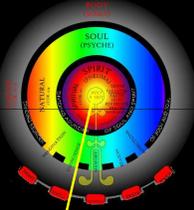
The soul: mind, will, emotions.

- We will spend a lifetime learning to let our true self emerge.

a home for the hungry of heart...

ekklesiafellowship.org

The Great Who



Justification (*Rom. 5:12*) - declared "right" (of worth).

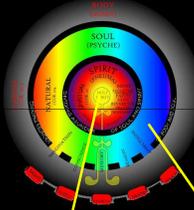
- An act done for us.
- Removes the guilt & penalty of sin.
- Happens in the spirit of man
- Once! (*Eph. 1:13; 2 Cor. 1:22*)

Justification

a home for the hungry of heart...

ekklesiafellowship.org

The Great Who



Sanctification (*John 17:17*) - Set apart (presenting ourselves).

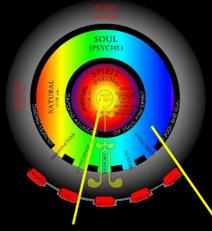
- A work done in us.
- Removes the growth & power of sin.
- Happens in the soul of man
- Ongoing for the rest of our earthly lives!
 - *Rom 6:13* "present yourselves"
 - *Rom 12:2* "renewing"
 - *Col 3:3* "set your mind"

Justification Sanctification

a home for the hungry of heart...

ekklesiafellowship.org

The Great Who



Romans 7 emphasizes the futility of the struggle if it is in our own strength.

Galatians 2:15-3:3.
We want to and believe we can do it on our own!

1. Formulas (Prayer of Jabez; PDL)
2. A new experience (camps; weekend programs)
3. Avoidance

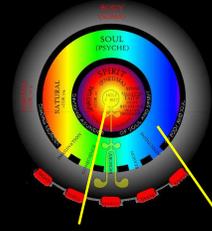
Justification

Sanctification

a home for the hungry of heart...

ekklesiafellowship.org

The Great Who



After much trying with no success, we must come to agree with Paul:

- *v.15 & 20* - I do want I don't want to do and don't do what I want to do!
- This is the perfect picture of a mature Christian trying to rid themselves of sin (trying to sanctify themselves).

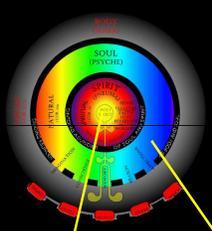
Justification

Sanctification

a home for the hungry of heart...

ekklesiafellowship.org

The Great Who



~~What~~ is the answer? (*v.24*)
Who is the answer?

- *Rom 13:14* - "put on the Lord Jesus Christ"
- *Matt 16:15* - "who do you say that I am?"
- *John 10:27* - hear; know; follow (Luke 9:23)
- *Matt 11:28* - "come to me"

Justification

Sanctification

a home for the hungry of heart...