



The Traitor Within

Romans 7:13-25



Romans 7:13-25 ^{NLT} Struggling with Sin

1. **Sin in Spite of Knowledge (7:13–17).**

13 But how can that be?

Did the law, which is good, cause my death?

Of course not!

Sin used what was good

to bring about my condemnation to death.

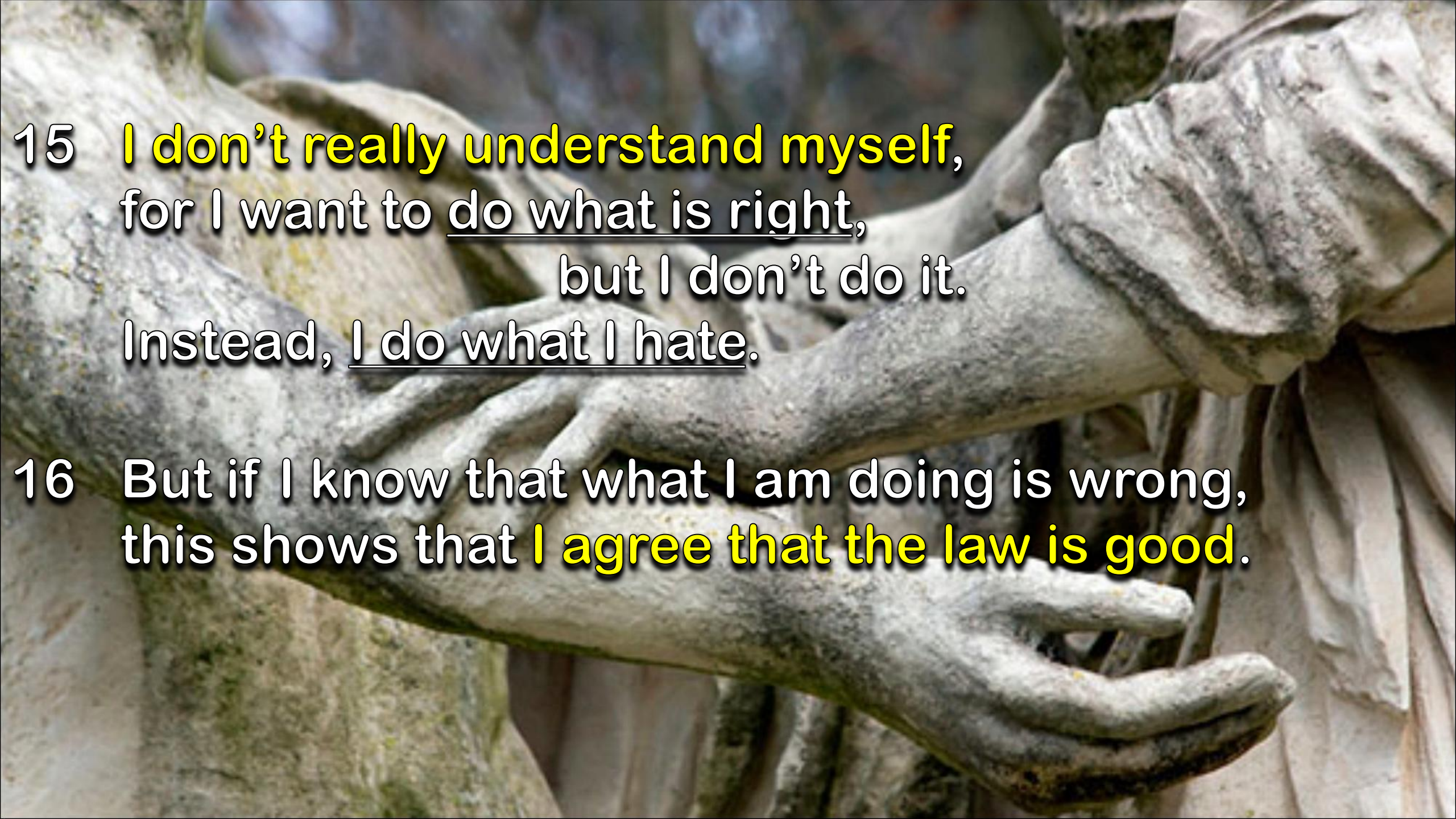
So we can see how terrible sin really is.



It uses **God's good commands**
for its own evil purposes.

14 So the trouble is not with the law,
for it is spiritual and good.

The trouble is with me,
for I am all too human, **a slave to sin.**

A close-up photograph of a stone sculpture, likely depicting a religious or historical scene. The focus is on several hands clasped together in a gesture of prayer or supplication. The stone is weathered and has a greyish-brown hue. The text is overlaid on the image, with the first line in yellow and the rest in white with a black outline.

15 **I don't really understand myself,**
for I want to do what is right,
but I don't do it.
Instead, I do what I hate.

16 But if I know that what I am doing is wrong,
this shows that **I agree that the law is good.**

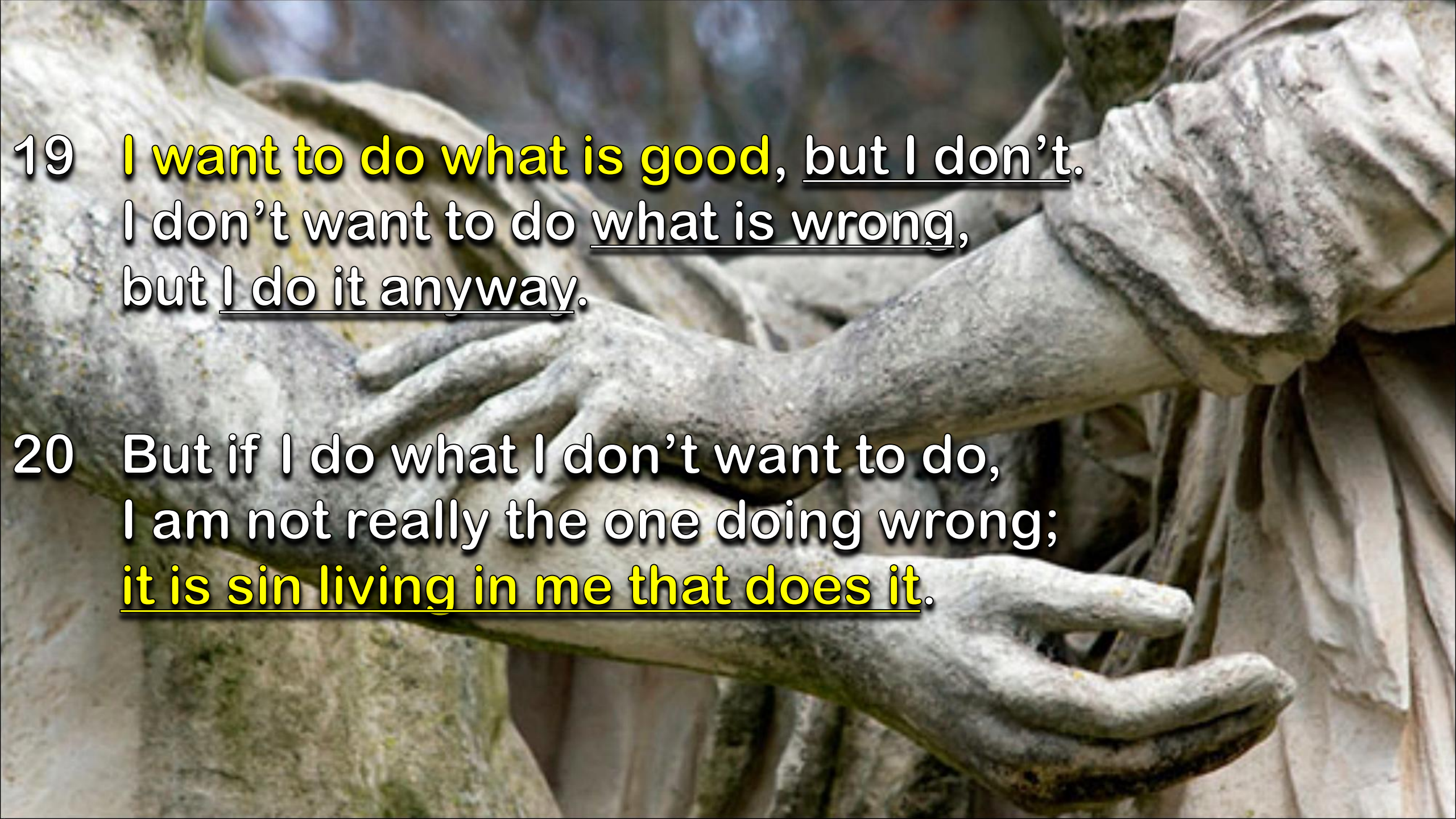


2. Sin in Spite of Choice (7:18–20)

17 So I am not the one doing wrong;
it is sin living in me that does it.

18 And I know that nothing good lives in me,
that is, in my sinful nature.

I want to do what is right, but I can't.



19 I want to do what is good, but I don't.
I don't want to do what is wrong,
but I do it anyway.

20 But if I do what I don't want to do,
I am not really the one doing wrong;
it is sin living in me that does it.



3. Sin in Spite of Feeling (7:21–25)

21 I have discovered this principle of life—
that when I want to do what is right,
I inevitably do what is wrong

22 I love God's law with all my heart.



23 But there is another power within me
that is at war with my mind.

This power makes me a slave
to the sin that is still within me.

24 **Oh, what a miserable person I am!**
Who will free me from this life
that is **dominated by sin and death?**



25 THANK GOD!

The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.

So you see how it is:

In my mind I really want to obey God's law,

but because of my sinful nature

I am a slave to sin.



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