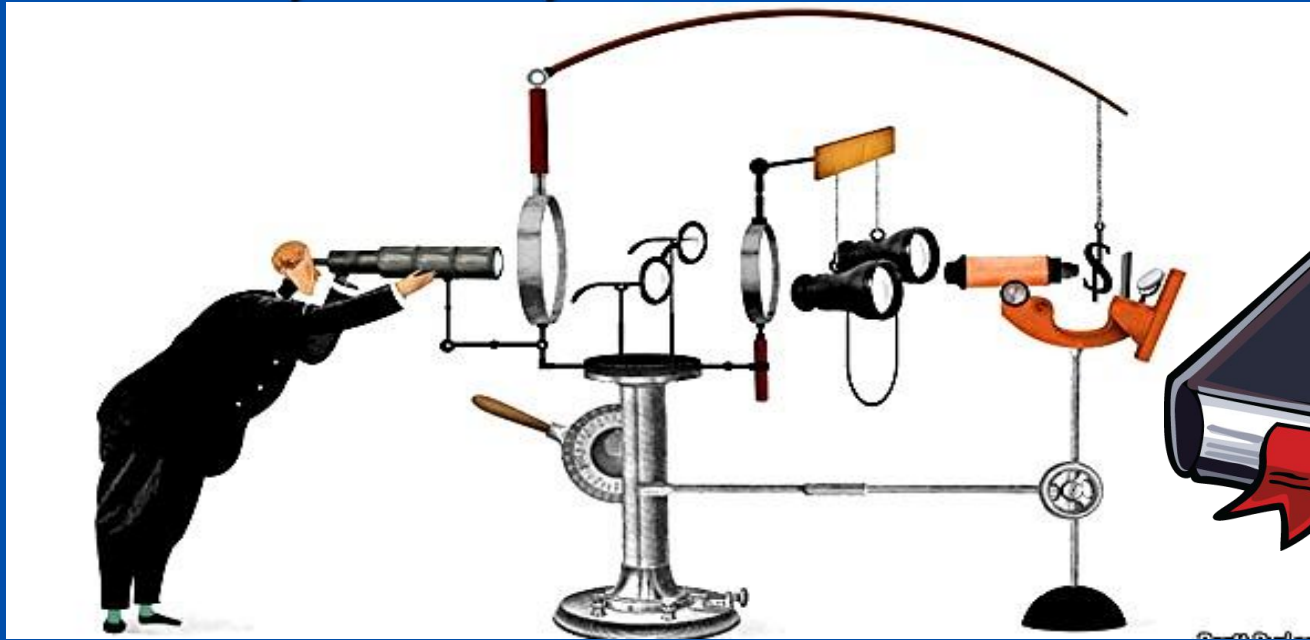


NEAR, MID, AND FAR VIEW



- “Therefore” = what follows is a conclusion
- Romans 8:1 = summation of Romans 1 – 7
- Commentators often see Romans 7 & 8 as a Bible within a Bible, the primary source of Christian doctrine
- It is dangerous to take 2 chapters out of the entire Bible as essentially the molten core of our faith, and even as a “book of corrections”
- A wider context is needed for a well-rounded and proper doctrine

WHO RUNS THE CHURCH?



CHURCH GOVERNMENT

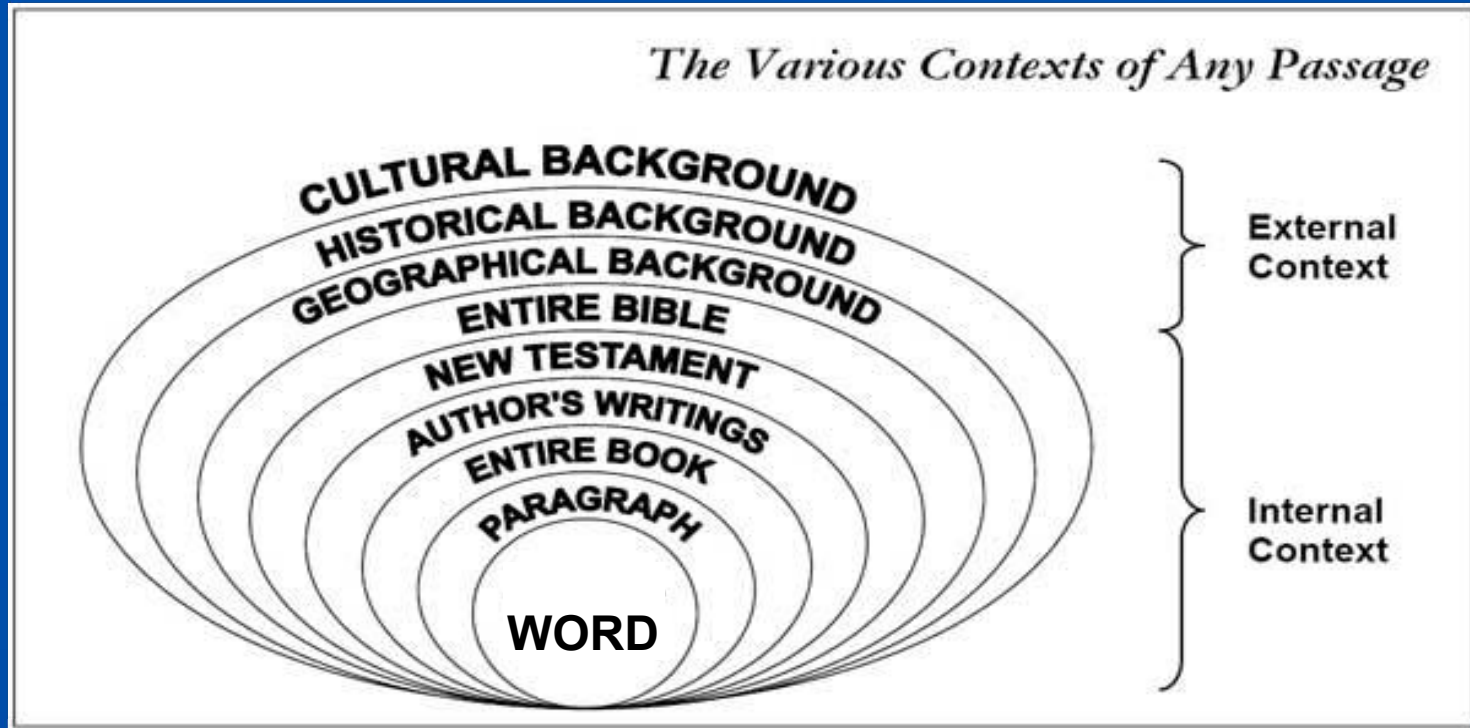


ACADEMICS



- Bible often made to conform to Paul, especially Romans 7 & 8
- For Church government, the search for truth is over once the Church's doctrines have been established
- The job of the Academic branch is to support the doctrines decided upon by the Church government

CONTEXT IS THE KEY



- Always dangerous to work backward from a doctrine in order to establish it in the Bible
- To take 2 chapters out of the entire Bible (Rom. 7, 8) as having the most weight for doctrine is a bad idea
- Weight of words: The Father, Christ, Moses, then all other Biblical writers and characters

PAUL IS THE *JEWISH* APOSTLE TO THE GENTILES

- Paul is most venerated by the Church because he is the Apostle to the Gentiles
- Paul seen as a sort of “specialist” in gentile theology
- Paul’s words typically stripped of their Jewish cultural context
- For Early Church Fathers, Jews and Judaism were a mystery

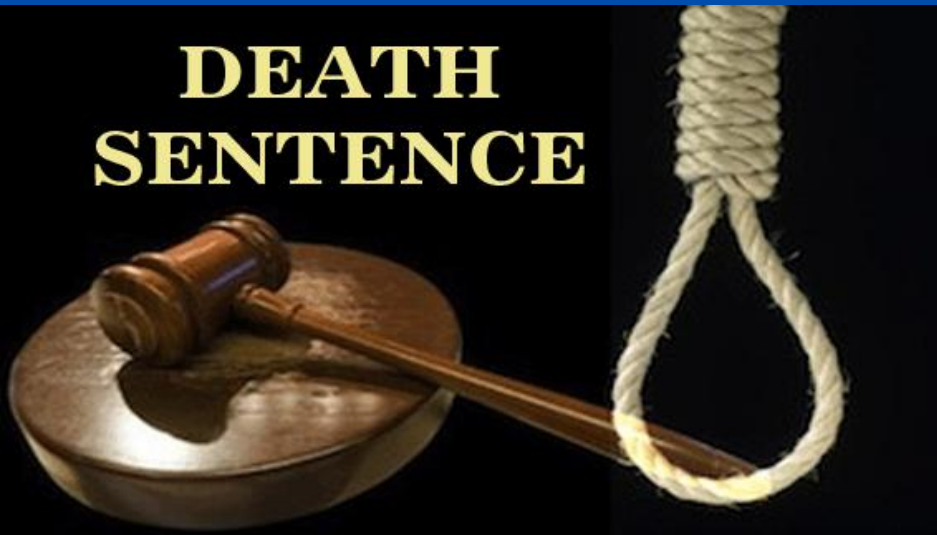


ROMANS CHAPTER 8: NO CONDEMNATION



- Paul's conclusion from chapters 1 – 7 is NOT that the Law is dead!
- Vs. 1 *“No longer any condemnation...in union with Messiah...”*
- Today “condemn” means to denounce someone
- In the Bible “condemn” means the death sentence
- Law came in 3 forms:
 - 1) direct law 2) Natural law 3) The Law of Moses

**DEATH
SENTENCE**



NO ETERNAL DEATH PENALTY



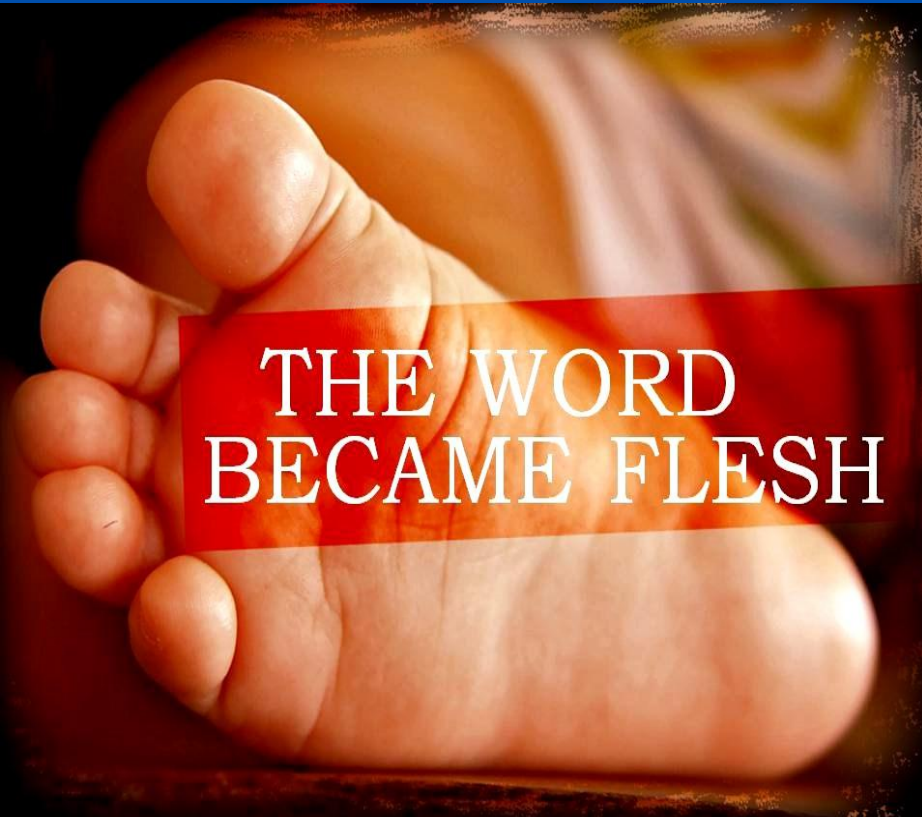
- Believers still die (go to the grave)
- The ONLY aspect of The Law that “changes” is that we don’t suffer the curse of The Law for sinning
- Curse = eternal death penalty
- “Law” of the Spirit, versus “Law” of sin and death
- Law in this case more means “principle”
- Law of the two Spirits is the same as the doctrine of the Two Masters
- Essene theology

THE LAW IS THE ROADMAP

- The Law cannot change human nature because it was not designed to
- The Law defines sin, tells us God's nature, what righteous living is, and how to make peace with God
- The Law was God being accommodating to His people
- The sacrificial system is grace



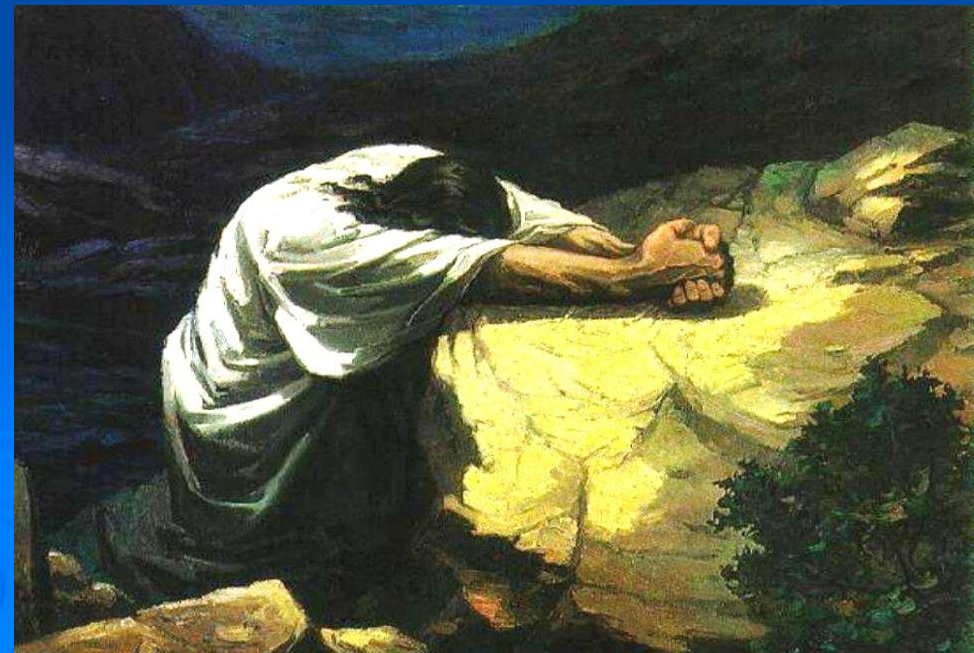
THE HUMANNESS OF YESHUA



THE WORD
BECAME FLESH

- Paul says that Yeshua came in the “likeness” of sinful flesh
- This means that although Christ came with sinful flesh, He never succumbed to it
- Yeshua could suffer, feel pain, be hungry and thirsty, have the emotions of fear and anxiety
- Matt. 26:38 – 39
- Luke 22:42 – 33
- John 1:1

- As the Word in flesh, Yeshua of course obeyed His own Word (Torah) perfectly!
- Deut. 30:11 – 14
- Since Yeshua had an evil inclination, He had free will
- Matt. 26:39
- Arisen, Christ no longer had an evil inclination
- Upon our resurrection we will no longer be encumbered with an evil inclination



MAIMONIDIES' ADMISSION

- Why did Paul spend so much time speaking on the same 2 or 3 principles?
- They were taken for granted within Judaism in his day
- This letter directly written for the Roman congregations
- In his “Guide for the Perplexed” RamBam says that The Law has NO effect upon human nature, and nothing can, and God wouldn't interfere
- Paul was refuting this doctrine because Yeshua's advent can change human nature



RamBam