

## Spiritual Battle Ground

### Introduction

- If we break down the psyche of man - 1 Thessalonians 5:23
  - Our Body seeks its own and appeals to our emotions
  - Our Spirit is dormant until the Spirit makes it alive (John 6:63)
  - Our Soul and it consists of the Mind, Will and Emotions
- Paul will now lead us through four battle grounds for the mind

### Romans 7:15-25

- I. Spiritual versus Carnal - (14-17)
  - A. The battle ground – (14)
  - B. The battle - (15)
    1. Sin of commission
    2. Sin of omission
  - C. My defense – the law (16)
  - D. My opposition – Sin (17)
    1. This is not about neglecting our responsibility for sin
    2. It is about recognizing the root of the problem
- II. Good versus Evil - (18-20)
  - A. When evil reigns – My flesh – (18)
    1. My will – (18b)
    2. My will fails – (18c)
      - a. Performance Christianity is not real and it won't last!
      - b. Does not deal with the underlying sin.
  - B. The good is overtaken - (19)
  - C. When sin is victorious - (20)
- III. Law of God versus Law of Sin - (21-23)
  - A. The persistence of the fight – (21)
    1. The law - “When I would do good, evil is present with me”
    2. This is NOT the law of God; this is a principle of life
  - B. We see the value of the law of God - (22)
  - C. We struggle with the law of sin –(23)
    1. Law of my mind – the mind retains God's truth
    2. The law of sin is the power of the flesh
- IV. Mind versus Flesh - (24-25) Paul asks a most pertinent question.
  - A. The question – (24)
    1. Paul's frustration with this persistent battle – “O wretched man that I am!”
    2. “body of death” is our flesh - 1 Corinthians 15:50
  - B. The answer - (25)
  - C. The conclusion – (25b) - Our victory will only come when we learn to walk in the Spirit! - Romans 8:2