

WINNING THE BATTLE INSIDE ME

The Invisible War
Rick Warren

Romans 7:15-25 (TLB)

THE COST OF THE BATTLE

1. _____
"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." vs. 15
2. _____
"I know perfectly well that what I am doing is wrong, and my bad conscience proves that I agree with these laws I am breaking." vs. 16
3. _____
"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." vs. 17
4. _____
"I know I am rotten through and through so far as my old sinful nature is concerned." vs. 18
5. _____
"No matter which way I turn I can't make myself do right. I want to but I can't. When I want to do good, I don't; and when I try not to do wrong, I do it anyway. Now if I am doing what I don't want to, it is plain where the trouble is: sin still has me in its evil grasp." vs. 18-20
6. _____
"It seems to be a fact of life that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong . . . In my mind I want to be God's willing servant, but instead I find myself still enslaved to sin." vs. 21, 23

THE CAUSE: _____

"I love to do God's will so far as my new nature is concerned; but 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." vs. 21, 23

"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!" vs. 24

GOD'S BATTLE PLAN FOR MY VICTORY

1. _____
"Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 7:24-25 (NLT)

"Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to its sinful desires . . . Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life." Romans 6:12-13 (NLT)

"For the new spiritual principle of life 'in' Jesus Christ lifts me out of the old vicious circle of sin." Romans 8:2 (PHILLIPS)
2. _____
"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us."
1 John 1:8 (NIV)
 - BEHIND EVERY SELF-DEFEAT ACT IS _____
 - TO STOP DEFEATING MYSELF, I MUST: _____"Then you will know the truth, the truth will set you free." John 8:32 (NIV)
3. _____
"Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so God can heal you. When a believing person prays, great things happen." James 5:16 (NCV)

"Let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves." Galatians 5:16 (NLT)

Next Step

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