

In Romans 7:1-6 Paul provides a 4-stage argument to prove that believers are dead to the dominion and penalty of the law and married to Christ.

- I. Paul states the principle: As long as a person lives they are under the dominion of the law (v. 1).
- II. Paul illustrates the principle: Just as a married woman cannot marry another man unless her husband dies (which would free her from the law concerning her husband) (vs. 2-3) . . .
- III. Paul applies the principle: Likewise, you died to the law and its dominion when you were converted (v. 4a).
  - A. So that you would be married to Christ (v. 4b).
  - B. In order that we may bear fruit for God (v. 4c).
- IV. Paul explains the application of the principle:
  - A. Our old life in the flesh proved that we were under the dominion of the law (v. 5).
  - B. Our new life in the Spirit proves that we are no longer under the dominion of the law (v. 6).