

Refrigerator Notes 06 July 2014  
Encounter of the Third Kind  
Romans 7:14-25

1. In our text, Paul is describing his own personal struggle with sin – like many of us who struggle with our misdeeds, thoughts and inappropriate actions
2. Paul describes his struggles as a war within himself – not wanting to do the evil that is within himself but wanting to do what is good
3. As Christians we have been conditioned to accept our sinful ways as part of life – but the issue is, unlike Paul, we do what we want to do without regards to the consequences that sin brings
4. The problem is that we treat the Lord's commandments as a speed sign, if there is no policeman around there is no need to obey the law
5. However, since we as Christians have not had the encounter of the third kind like Paul had on the road to Damascus – we have not seen Jesus or God – therefore we continue to sin as if it's ok to disobey God's laws
6. Some of our Christians have been Christians far too long and have falling away from the truth – God's Word
7. Apostasy (a-pos-ta-cee) means too far away from God's truth – in essence we are rebellious against God and at times we just flat out reject Jesus!
8. Scripture says the day will come when man will clamor for the Holy Spirit – however, if we find ourselves clamoring for the spirit it means we are living outside of God's word (Ephesians 4:29-32)
9. Therefore, we must ask the question as Christians "Is there an apostasy occurring in the Christian church today?"
10. As Christians, we confess that we love the Lord, but readily admit we don't do all that is commanded
11. Our failure is because we have not yet put into practice what God has placed within us, the very proof is when crisis come in our lives
12. There is a difference between a Christian and a true believer – one practices God's words daily and the other does not
13. God is determined to make us all pure, holy, and right and God will not allow you to escape from the Holy Spirit
14. As Christians, we want do or practice God's word until the Holy Spirit falls upon us – in order for you to have an encounter with the Holy Spirit – one has to be willing to allow the Spirit to control their lives
15. Remember, the wages of sin is death – the Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years because they failed to trust and obey God
16. Sin is not God's work or doing, it's the work of men who perverted God's righteous work
17. How can you trust the word of God if you don't know the word of God – It is the Holy spirit that leads and guides us – we all need to have the encounter of the third kind, the Holy Spirit