

THE SEVENTH CHAPTER OF PAULS' EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS, PARAPHRASED.

WE have promised and have been requested to notice the "popular" views of this chapter. It may be considered, after all that has been said on it, that we are presumptuous to add any more; especially when it is considered by so many *good* and *great* men an exact epitome of a christian's experience; we say, for a young writer at the beginning of his efforts to propose an exposition, which is designed to show that in this chapter we have a sinner's "experience," may be deemed entirely heterodox. The reader is now apprised of our object, and we hope that he will scrutinize our arguments closely. Receive nothing but the truth.

"Honor to whom honor is due." We feel ourself under special obligation to Dr. Clarke for his notes on this chapter, but more particularly to the prefatory remarks in the "new version" of the *Living Oracles*. By the way, we would acknowledge, with all gratitude, that though we have had access to all the popular commentaries and principal theological works in the English language, yet we feel more indebted to the prefatory remarks in the new version of the *New Testament*, which we could read in two hours, for the knowledge of the scriptures, than all the human productions we have seen or heard! These remarks brushed away the traditions of men, and taught us to read the book for ourself.

In the following remarks we shall copy the chapter as given in the new version and intersperse the text with some general remarks:

Do you not know, brethren, (for I speak to that part of you who were under the Mosaic dispensation, to them that knew the law, and now desire to bring your Gentile brethren into a similar situation) that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he lives? You all know that a married woman is bound, by the law of Moses and of God, to her husband as long as he lives; but if the husband be dead, she is released from the law of her husband. If, then, indeed, while her husband lives, she be married to another, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband be dead, she is free from the law; so that she is not an adulteress, though married to another husband. Understand by these obvious facts that thus, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law, by the body of Christ, for he took the law out of the way, nailing it to the cross, that you might be married to another, even Christ, who rose from the dead, that we may bring forth fruit unto God. For when we were in the flesh, being under the dominion of our sinful passions, which were through the law which (law) discovered to us our condemnation without disclosing the remedy, and, therefore, wrought effectually in our members, to bring forth fruit unto death. But now, having died with Christ, we are free—we are released from the law by which we were held in bondage; we are released from our former husband and master, so that now we may serve God in newness of spirit, according to the law of liberty—the Gospel—and