

*I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.
For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.*

Romans 7:15, 19 (NIV)

**“I discovered through this process that man is not truly one, but two...
It wasn't that I was a hypocrite... both sides of me were completely
sincere.”**

- Robert Louis Stevenson in *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*

THE INNER BATTLE

1. THERE IS A BATTLE THAT YOU CAN'T WIN

What shall we say, then? Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of coveting. For apart from the law, sin was dead. Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died. I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death. For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me, and through the commandment put me to death. So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good. Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means! Nevertheless, in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it used what is good to bring about my death, so that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful.

Romans 7:7-13 (NIV)

2. THERE IS A BATTLE THAT YOU CAN'T LOSE

*I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.
And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. As it is, it is no longer I
myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. For I know that good itself does not dwell in me,
that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it
out. For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on
doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in
me that does it. So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there
with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in me,
waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at
work within me. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is
subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!
So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in my sinful nature a slave to the
law of sin.*

Romans 7:15-25 (NIV)

3. MAKE SURE YOU'RE FIGHTING THE RIGHT ONE

*The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And
the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These
two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good
intentions.*

Galatians 5:17 (NLT)

**“No American will think it wrong of me to proclaim that hearing the
U.S. was on our side was the greatest joy to me. England would live.
Britain would live. The rest of the war was simply proper application of
overwhelming force. I went to bed and slept the sleep of the saved and
the thankful.”**

- Winston Churchill

*That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed
every day.*

2 Corinthians 4:16 (NLT)