

## Saints and Rats

**Romans 7:21-25 “So I find this law at work: When 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 the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God--through Jesus Christ our Lord!”**

A brother spoke, “We’re Saints and we’re Rats.”

That statement hit me right on the jaw and I thought, “Is that true? I see my life.” My own experience has painfully revealed this. I think of all these people that I put on pedestals when I was growing up, only to find that they hired hookers, embezzled inheritances, committed adultery, incest, and murder.

No, these icons didn’t come from today’s tabloids or Hollywood; they came straight from the Bible.

In Sunday School I loved hearing about David whipping Goliath, and how this little shepherd boy ran to kill a nine-foot tall giant. But then one day I came to that dark chapter that says, “In springtime, when Kings go off to war...” Only to find that this valiant worshipper of God would be wounded by his worst enemy...himself (2 Samuel 11). I don’t have the time to tell you about Jacob’s deception, Judah’s love for prostitutes, and how Moses, David, and Paul were all indicted for murder.

Were they rats? Are they Saints? Or both?

My conclusion is that like any house, no matter how well established, built, or sealed has to battle mice. Houses get cracks...like us. So, when I see the “rat” manifest in a Saint, I don’t judge. And, when I see the evidence of “rat” in my own spirit-house, I don’t mess around and make them pets.