

Romans

Chapter 6

Connection to previous chapter – so; can we continue to sin? Is everything covered by grace? Of course not. Paul ridicules that notion. This is an abuse. Misunderstood by many. Living in sin is an inconsistency in a relationship with Christ. We are to *die* to sin. Metanoia. Sin should lose its power over us. We seek after godliness.

We come to Christ to be delivered from sin, not to live in it.

Baptized into His Death. United with Him; benefits from His Death. Baptism into repentance. Are you ignorant of this? We put on Christ; Gal 3:27. United also in death. Means of our justification and sanctification.

We are buried with Him – separated from the world. Col 2:12.

We share in His Death so we can share in His Life. We die and rise spiritually. I Cor 6:14. **His** Death and Resurrection are the basis and the proof. The Power is Trinitarian. We rise in a **new life** as a result.

If we share in His Death, we share in His Resurrection. Paul re-emphasizes this. Greek means an intimate union with Christ. We rise from a spiritual death then physical death.

The old man is crucified with Christ – the body of sin is done away with. No longer slaves to sin. Now we know this; it's not just doctrine. Close identity with Him. Regeneration. Radical change takes place. So then we know that the license under grace is ridiculous.

If we share in His Death, we share in His Life. Since His Life never ends, we are assured of eternal life. Death has no dominion over Him. So we should have no fear. He is the first to conquer death. The last enemy. I Cor 15:26; I Cor 15:54-56.

His Death was for sin but now He lives unto God. We must do the same. We can only do this through Him.

So we should not let sin **reign** in our bodies. Sin is not completely destroyed and we are still vulnerable. We must try not to surrender to it. Lusts are very strong and we have to **strive** not to give in to them. We should present ourselves to God as instruments of righteousness. Enemy uses our weakness and body parts to attack. Very difficult to resist.

We cannot allow sin to have dominion over us. The Work of Christ has secured our resistance. The legal dispensation is NOT Law but Grace. We are not slaves to Law and not slaves to sin. Justified despite what we have done. Law does not have a remedy; it only condemns.

Under Law, you work to escape punishment and failure. Under grace you approach as a son because you have been forgiven. *The principle is love, not fear.* We know that He loves us before we love Him.

You serve the one you present yourself to as a slave or servant. The Greek means a bond servant, *duolos*. There is an influence that drives obedience. There are only 2 choices; 2 kingdoms. We can serve the kingdom that leads to **death** or the Kingdom which leads to **life**. If we serve sine we are its slave John 8:34.

Paul thanks God that they were once slaves to sin but now have changed. They were transferred to the Kingdom voluntarily by believing. Not a passive transfer. They renounced their bondage to sin and were now serving God. John 8:36. It is not *license* but a change of masters. So licentious grace is ridiculous.

When they were serving sin they did not bear fruit. They were not involved with righteousness and did not serve it. The end of this was death. They are now ashamed of those things they did. The only outcome would have been death.

Now they have fruit unto holiness. He is the vine, we are the branches. John 15:5. Now we get life.

For the wages of sin is death, but the *gift* of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Justice and Holiness of God.

Sin deserves death but holiness is a gift of grace. This secures life - the Law could not accomplish this. Unmerited favor. Sinners merit hell but saints *do not* merit heaven.

