

ROMANS CHAPTER 6 THE CHRISTIAN WALK

God's grace not only justifies us, it also empowers us to "walk in newness of life"

PAUL ANSWERS TWO QUESTIONS:

1. Shall we keep sinning that grace may keep abounding? Vs 1
2. Knowing that we are not under the principle of law, but under grace, shall we use our liberty to commit sin? Vs 15

THE ANSWER TO QUESTION ONE vs 2-14

Vs 1 The First Question – If Rom 5:20-21 is true, does this mean we should continue in sin that grace might abound?

Vs 2 Perish the thought – A second question answers the first.
❖ "who died" (aorist tense), which denotes not a state but a past act.
❖ It never refers to an action that is continuing (translated: "who died" not "are dead"). Paul does not call upon Christians to die to sin, but rather states that they shared in Christ's death; they died to sin when Christ died to sin.

This truth is stressed throughout this chapter and is the basis for the truth taught in it.

Vs 2 "we who died to sin (singular)"

Vs 3 "us who have been baptized... into His death"

Vs 4 "we have been buried with Him through baptism"

Vs 5 "we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death"

Vs 6 "our old self was crucified with Him"

Vs 7 "he who has died is"

Vs 8 "we have died with Christ"

Vs 11 "consider yourselves to be dead to"

Vs 13 "present yourselves as those alive from the dead"

Col 2:20 "If you died (aorist tense, past fact) to the elementary (religious) principles of the world"

Col 3:3 "For you have died (aorist tense, past fact) and your life is hid with Christ in God"

QUESTION: When did we die? We died when Christ died on the Cross. Gal 2:20

HOW SHALL THE ONE OF WHOM THE ABOVE CAN BE SAID, STILL LIVE IN SIN?

- Vs 3 Do you not know? You should!
Baptized with Christ 1 Cor 12:13 means joined to His death.
1 Cor 10:2 “baptized into Moses – joined in a spiritual union with Him.”
- Vs 4 THEREFORE
❖ Buried with Him...into death – our old man was crucified with Christ, and all that belonged to that old man was ended before God on Christ’s cross.
❖ God did this (“in order that”) as Christ was raised Rom 1:4, so we too might experience the same power in our lives seen in a new walk.
❖ He shared His life with us. 1 Cor 15:45-49
- Vs 5 Continues the work of Christ
We have died, been buried, made alive vs 4, and will be completely conformed to His resurrection with our bodily resurrection. Phil 1:21; 2 Cor 4:16-18
- Vs 6 “knowing this” – come into the knowledge of – more than head knowledge only
❖ Old self – all we were in Adam Eph 2:1-2 was crucified with Him.
❖ We have died to that bondage of sin (singular).
 This “truth” is as true as “our sins were laid upon Him”.
❖ We “know this” by faith Heb 11:3
 We believe God’s testimony concerning this.
❖ The only way to overcome sin in our life is to identify with Christ in His death. This is the only way that we can be set free from sin’s slavery.
❖ To attempt this by legalism is hopeless!
“Sin might be put away with” – put out of business.
- Vs 7 FACT! How do we know – because God has said so!
Our problem with sin (singular) has been taken care of by God as fully as our sins (plural) have.

NOTE: God's work on the Cross was complete! Not only were our sins removed by the blood of Christ, but our connection with Adam was ended; our former history is completely over in God's eyes. Col 1:12

Vs 8 Our death with Christ is accepted, our new life is experienced now!
Gal 2:20...and it continues on forever .

Vs 9 "We believe" vs 8 knowing...The finished work of Christ is exactly that – finished. Heb 6:1-9 esp vs 6

Vs 10` FOR
Christ not only died for sins 1 Cor 15:3 but He also died to sin (singular) and that death to sin was "once for all", thus He dealt with what we WERE, as well as what we had DONE.
In the truest sense it can be said that the moment we were born again, we started a new life in Christ. Ex 12:2; 2 Cor 5:17

VERSES 11 – 14 MAKE APPLICATION TO THIS TRUTH

Vs 11 Believe it! Reckon yourselves dead – alive
❖ We are not told to die to sin or to try and be alive to God.
❖ We are to accept these two things as true, accomplished fact.
❖ Remember Rom 4:18-22
❖ For the truth of Rom 6:2 to be experienced in our lives we must "reckon" it as so.
❖ Also note that Paul does not say sin is dead; he says we are.

Vs 12 THEREFORE and (vs 13), but, (vs 18), for (vs 14)
What don't we understand in this verse? 1 Cor 6:12-20

Vs 13 AND – specific – stop – your members – stop
BUT – specific – start – your members – start

Vs 14 FOR is in this verse twice
1. For sin shall not be master over you (Lordship)
Sin's lordship over us shall be ended. We have died to sin and
2. For you are not under law, but under grace; there is no law
Principle in our new life in Christ.
Grace is our rule of life.
Gal 4:4-7; Rom 7:4,6; Heb 7:18-19

Vs 15 QUESTION TWO

If vs 14 is true “we are not under law, but under grace”, can it be concluded that this represents a license to sin? PERISH THE THOUGHT!

NOTE: Many legalists say that we should not teach “freedom from law” because it encourages people to sin. Man’s sinful response is to misapply this truth, but God’s correction for this tendency is NOT to place a believer back under the law.

VERSES 16-23 GIVES US GOD’S ANSWER TO THE QUESTION

Vs 16 The strength of sin is just as real as its guilt.

- ❖ (No human can free himself from the bondage of sin.)
- ❖ The Fall positioned man with the inability to do anything else but sin Eph 2:1-2; 1 Jn 5:19, even to the extent that we do what we do not want to do Rom 7:14-25.
- ❖ We can present ourselves to God (as “slaves for obedience”) and experience a changed life. In fact, this is the only option we have if we desire a changed life ending in righteousness.

Vs 17 “though we were slaves of sin” 1 Cor 6:9-11

“we became obedient” 1 Thes 1:9-10

“from the heart” Rom 10:8-10

“to that form of teaching” – Grace Teaching Eph 1:13,14;

2 Tim 1:8-10, 13-14

Vs 18 “and having been freed from sin” Rom 6:3-10

All believers are positioned to become slaves of righteousness.

All that is needed is Rom 6:11-13.

Vs 19 Present tense, continuous action – keep on presenting

The only truly free human is the one who has enslaved himself to God Jn 8:33-36.

Vs 20-21 Lost people are free and fruitless.

- ❖ Free from recognizing any responsibility to God and
- ❖ Fruitless for everlasting life which we all face.
1 Cor 15:22 1 Pet 4:1-5
- ❖ The outcome of life without Christ is DEATH (Eternal Separation)

Vs 22 BUT NOW – being saved – our benefit is sanctification

(separation from sin) with the outcome being eternal life
(stresses quality of life, not length of it)
Rom 7:4-6; Titus 2:11-15

- Vs 23 Wages – result of what a lost person earns Rev 20:11-15
- ❖ The free gift of God Rom 5:15-16
 - ❖ Earn your end yourself or receive His free gift – the only two choices available to a man
 - ❖ In Christ receiving what Christ offers – this verse sums up all that Paul (God) has been saying:

- 3: 24-25 “Christ Jesus whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation
(satisfaction)
- 4:24 “for our sake...it will be reckoned as those who believe”
- 5:11 “We exult in ... Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received
the reconciliation”
- 5:21 “Grace...reigns...to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”
- 6:11 “Consider yourselves to be...alive to God in Christ Jesus”
- 6:23 “the free gift...is eternal life in Christ Jesus”
- 8:35-39 “nothing shall be able to separate us from the love of God”