

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 9/5-6/2022 *Romans Chapter 6*

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS107, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221 www.ptwente.com - For Audio & notes from previous studies -

OPENING PRAYER

Theme of the Book of Romans: “Righteousness by Faith” – 1:16-17

Romans Chapter 6 – Glorious Results of Justification by Faith

Dead to Sin, Alive to God - vs. 1-14; From Slaves to Sin to Slaves of God – vs. 15-23

- At the end of chapter of five, Paul tells us, “so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” He tells us, “where sins abounded, grace abounded much more.”

Dead to Sin, Alive to God

Rom 6:1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?

Rom 6:2 *Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?*

- **This is not the Christian life! We died to sin.** He lives inside of me giving me victory over sin and death!
- **Paul's answer is, *Certainly not! Or God forbid! Perish the thought!*** *How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?* It's interesting how that people will take a certain truth of God and then run with it to an illogical conclusion. If when we sin, God's grace abounds, shall we then just go ahead and not worry about our sins? Shall we just continue in sin in order that God's grace might just continually abound to us? Paul responds to that with this strong statement, "Certainly not!" or God forbid? Or perish the thought! Then he tells us what the principle is: *How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? (Rom 6:14) For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.*
- **The apostle used the aorist tense which always points to an event or an act that has happened once** and has been concluded. What Paul is saying here is that we have been taken entirely out of the realm and the rule, and the reign, and the kingdom of sin, and have been brought into this other kingdom of grace and put under its reign. *(Col 1:13) He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,*

Rom 6:3 *Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?*

- **What sort of baptism is this?** What kind of baptism is taught in the New Testament which definitely says that it is a baptism that incorporates us into Christ and joins us to Him? It is found in *(1Co 12:13) For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have **all** been made to drink into one Spirit.* The theme of that great chapter is the church as the Body of Christ. Christ is the Head, we are the Body. We are all joined to Him, and we are all joined to one another. By how have we thus been joined?
- **The answer is that the Holy Spirit baptizes us into the Body of Christ.** It is a baptism **by** the Holy Spirit. Not with the Holy Spirit, but by the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit that baptized us into the Body, that joins us to Christ. It is the wonderful mystical action of the Spirit. It can be compared to the action of the Spirit in our regeneration. It is He who does that, who give us this principle of life. It is He who exactly puts us into the Body of Christ; and the expression used is that He "*baptizes*" us into Christ, into the body of Christ.
- **This would seem to conclude that baptism by water is not in the mind of the Apostle at all** in these two verses, but the plain, explicit teaching of *1 Cor 12:13* and in the whole of that chapter, as it is in other places where the Apostle treats of this particular aspect of truth. Furthermore, the use of this term "*united together*" in verse 5, supports what is being said. All are agreed that the idea of uniting or planting together has nothing to do with baptism, but rather the idea of grafting a shoot into a tree. United or planted together in unity, identification, which is the meaning of the term. Paul is not using the figure of baptism in any shape or form there, but is still emphasizing the unity, which is also the work of the Spirit.
- **What is being emphasized here is not anything that I do as a believer, it is what has happened to me** that has incorporated me into Christ and joined me to Christ. The vital doctrine here is the doctrine of my union with Christ, is not something that I may or may not do. We should always include this in presenting the Gospel, that in salvation we are not merely forgiven and not only justified, but also that we were in Adam, but are now in Christ. That we are taken out of the one position and put into another. That I have finished with Adam and am dead to sin. I am in Christ and all the blessings that come to me, come because of my union with Christ!
- **As many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus.** This means ALL and nothing less than all. All of us, every true Christian has been baptized into Christ. If we are not united to Christ, we are not Christians. The Holy Spirit who convicts us of sin, the Holy Spirit who gives us the principle of new life, who regenerates us, is the same Spirit who at the same time, joins us to Christ. This is true of every Christian. Paul is not dealing with experience at this point. That comes later. What he is dealing with here is

something that has happened to us, something that is true of us, something that results from the action of the Holy Spirit upon us.

- **We were baptized into Jesus Christ. We are complete in Him.** (*Col 2:10*) and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power. When? Now! If you are a Christian you are complete in Christ. He is not just your wisdom, your righteousness, your sanctification, and your redemption, in glory. But now! You are no longer in Adam, you are in Christ and if you are in Him. What is true of Him is true of you. It is the guarantee of your final, complete redemption, of your being delivered from every spot or wrinkle or any such thing. Christ is my sanctification now. If I die at this moment, I am sanctified in Him. I am justified in Him. He is all this to me. I am baptized into Jesus Christ!

Rom 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

- **Buried with Him! Through our baptism into His death, we also share in His burial!** By this baptism, we not only died with Him, but we were also buried with Him. Buried with Him from what? Buried from this reign and realm of sin! We have died to sin in that sense. It is true to say of us that as a man when he dies and is buried has entirely finished with this realm and life in which we live, so when we were buried with Christ, it was the final proof of the fact that we also have finished with the reign and realm and the rule and the power of sin! (*Rom 5:21*) so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. We are buried in the grave in that respect!
- **That just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.** This is how His resurrection came about! (*Act 2:24, 27*) whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it. [27] **FOR YOU WILL NOT LEAVE MY SOUL IN HADES, NOR WILL YOU ALLOW YOUR HOLY ONE TO SEE CORRUPTION.** Sin and death did their utmost to hold Him. Sin and death thought they had conquered Him. He had been buried, the stone was rolled onto the mouth of the grave and sealed. It appeared to be the end. But it was not so! There comes in a power, this glorious power of God, that can even conquer the power of death and of the grave and of hell. Death could not hold Him because He is the Holy One of God
- **What Peter is saying is that our Lord's resurrection is the ultimate proof** that He has finally and completely conquered sin and its reign, and has entirely finished with it, having no more to do with it! This other power has done its utmost. It has brought up its every reserve, but it has been defeated and routed. He is entirely outside it and is no longer in the realm and rule and reign and power of sin!
- **Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.** Note this astonishing statement that **just as Christ**, that is true of Him, even so, **it is true of us**. That like as Christ, we also should walk in newness of life, which Christ walks in as the result of His resurrection. So do we! We are baptized into Him, we are joined to Him. What is true of His death is true of us. What is true of His burial is true of us and what is true of His resurrection is true of us, which means the same glorious power of the Father that raised Him from the dead has done the same to us! (*Eph 1:19-20*) and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power [20] which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places.

Rom 6:5 For if (since) we have been united (planted or grafted together) together in the likeness (like, spiritually, but not identical) of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

- **Certainly, we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.** This "shall be" has led some to believe that it refers only to our future literal bodily resurrection. It certainly includes that, but it is true now too. We should walk in *newness of life*. Where? In the state of glorification? No! But here while we are still left in the world. In exactly the same way this 'shall be' refers also to this present life. We get a hint at

experience. We are aware of this, that I am walking in a new life. I can give proofs of new life within me. But at this point that is not what matters. What I must hold onto is this, that I have been put into Christ and therefore, these things are true of me. It is because of this that my salvation is so sure. It is because God Himself, by His Spirit, has put me into Christ, that nothing can ever take me out of Christ. My future, my eternal future, my final glorification is guaranteed, certain and sure. (*Rom 8:30*)
Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Rom 6:6 knowing this, that our old man (the man in Adam, not the old nature) ***was crucified with Him, that the body of sin*** (the old nature, *body*, 'soma', meaning same as all the other of the 10 uses in Romans of this word translated body) ***might be done away with*** (*katargeo*), ***that we should no longer be slaves*** (9X in this chapter) ***of sin.***

- **What then does Paul mean by “old man”?** If we look at the context of the entire passage which begins in chapter 5 verse 12, The “old man” is the *man* that I used to be in Adam. I was a *man* in Adam! Now I am a *man* in Christ! It is the *man* I once was, but which I am no longer. As a Christian I am no longer in Adam. I am in Christ. The *old man* that I can look back upon is the man that I was then in Adam. It my *old* humanity. It is not my carnal, sinful nature. That is still here, but the old man has gone, he has been crucified.
- **Paul used the aorist tense that the crucifixion has happened**, as in (*Rom 6:10*) ***For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.*** It is not a process, the crucifixion has ended it. Christ does not go on dying! I died with Him, that *old man* died, my old Adamic human nature, the man that I was by my natural birth. That man was joined and united to Adam. He, that is the *old man*, was crucified together with Christ! There we have the reconciliation of the statement we have here with those other statements.

Rom 6:7 For he who has died has been freed from sin.

- **It's hard to tempt a dead man to do anything!** Why “he” and not “we?” It's a general statement for all, not just to believers. No charge can be leveled against a dead man! You know a guy has a problem with pornography, if he's dead, you know, you could surround him with magazines but it's not going to do anything. He's dead. So, he that is dead is freed from sin. Sin no longer has hold on a person's life who is dead. Therefore, we need to reckon, to consider, ourselves, dead, now being in Christ.
- **If I (we) ever have doubts, after falling into sin, as to whether or not I am in Christ, I need to remember this!** I, as a man, as a being, as a personality, as an entity, **have already by my death with Christ, finished** with the realm, the rule, the reign and the dominion of sin! Any man who has died is automatically, inevitably, free – *freed from sin!*

Rom 6:8 Now if (since) *we* (believers) ***died with Christ, we believe*** (be absolutely certain) ***we shall also live with Him,***

- **We have died to Christ to sin, and have risen with Him also to an entirely new life**, in an entirely new realm, which has nothing to do with sin. We have finished with the realm of sin, he says, not only by dying but also by rising again. The dying really does make it complete, but if you further realize your rising again into another different realm, then it becomes quite clear. We have not only died, but we have also risen again into a new and resurrection life with the Lord Jesus Christ!

Rom 6:9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him.

- **The very fact that God raised Him from the dead is proof positive** that God was fully satisfied with the work which His Son had done upon the cross. The resurrection is God's announcement and

proclamation to the whole universe that Christ has completed the work which He sent Him into the world to do.

- **Death no longer has dominion over Him**, meant that there was a point, there was time, when death did have power over Him. That was why He died. (*1Co 15:56*) *The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.* That is the glorious message of the Gospel is that He has taken upon Himself our sins, thereby putting Himself under the penalty of the Law!

Rom 6:10 *For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.*

- **He died to the whole relationship to sin** into which He once put Himself voluntarily for our salvation. He has died unto it as a power, as something that reigns, having a realm and a rule and an authority.
- **When He died unto sin, He did it once and forever.** The work is so complete that there is never any need for Him to come back to do it again, because He is the Son of God. Because He is who and what He is, and because of the way in which He accomplished His work, He by one act has done it once and forever! It needs no repetition. There will be no repetition! (*Heb 9:28*) *so Christ was offered once (once and for all) to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.* Christ's relationship to sin was only temporary. It was just for that short period of time. But that will never happen again, because He did once and forever everything that was necessary to deliver His people from the relationship to sin and death. He is the last Adam!
- **But the life that He lives, He lives to God.** Verses 8, 9 & 10 look exclusively at the Lord Jesus Christ. Our Lord has finished with sin and death once and for ever. He will never die again. Death has no more dominion over Him. He has conquered and vanquished death. He has taken the sting out of death. His resurrection is the defeat of death. He is now altogether and entirely without limit in the realm of God and His glory. He will remain there forever. His relationship to sin and death was only temporary and for our sakes, This is the good news of salvation, that this eternal Son of God came out from the glory once. He did it all! He humbled Himself, coming into the world like this. He put Himself into the realm of this power of sin and death, in order that you and I might be redeemed and reconciled to God! Having accomplished His work, He has gone back into the glory! **But the life that He lives, He lives to God.**

Rom 6:11 *Likewise you also, reckon (consider) yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

- **Reckon (conclude, draw the deduction) yourselves to be dead indeed to sin.** We accept God's Word and draw inevitable conclusions from it. We are to do what Abraham did when God came to him at the age of ninety-nine, Sarah being ninety, saying to Abraham that Sarah is going to conceive and bear a son. It sounded impossible, but Abraham believed God. Because God said it, Abraham believed it, in spite of everything to the contrary. Abraham reckoned that what God said was true. We, too, are to accept God's Word and draw the inevitable deduction *from it*.
- **Likewise you also, reckon yourselves.** You, yourself, meaning your essential personality. My being, my entity. That which God has given to you and to me, that makes us all separate and different people, the individuals that we are. I was once a man in Adam. I was once in Adam. I am no longer in Adam, but I am in Christ! I am to reckon, consider, something that is already a fact, because I am united to Christ! From the moment I became united to Him, I am already dead to sin, to the law, to death itself!
- **I am to consider something that has already happened for me!** It's not something that I do. It has already been accomplished for me by the Lord Jesus Christ, who died unto sin once! I have come into this position because of the work of the Holy Spirit who baptizes me into Christ. As He baptized me into Christ, I am in Christ, reaping all these consequences of what happened to Him. This verse is not telling me to accomplish anything. It just tells me to realize what has been done for me once and forever by the Lord Jesus Christ! We see that this is not telling me anything about my experience. It is not experimental. It tells me about my position, my standing, my whole status.

- **But alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.** Not through Him, not by Him, but in Him! What a world of difference this is! We who are Christians are not merely forgiven because of what Christ has done for us, we have been united to Christ. We are joined to Christ, we are indeed in Christ Jesus! He is the Vine, we are the branches! We are in Him, a part of Him!

Rom 6:12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

- **Futile for the natural man, but not for you!** There is nothing more futile than to turn to a natural man, saying to conquer sin, do not let it reign in your mortal body! He cannot do it. He is the slave of sin, under its dominion and power of sin. But this is not talking to him, but it saying to you! Therefore, do not let sin reign in your mortal body!
- **Who are you? You are the man who has died with Christ,** who has been crucified with Christ! You are the man who is alive unto God, in whom the Spirit of God is working. You're the man in whom God's greater purpose has been set moving. You have the power in You! Therefore, I can exhort you! Because you are a child of God! The Spirit of God is in you! The mind of Christ is in you! The purpose of God is working itself out in you! Because of this, we are not told just to "let go and let God", or to be passive, allowing Christ to live His life in us!
- **Instead! Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.** You are in a position to stop it! (*1Pe 5:8-9*) *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. [9] Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.* Resist the devil and he will flee from you. If you do that, you will conquer him! You will defeat him! For us as Christians, there is no need for sin to reign in our *mortal bodies*, because God is working in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure, and has given us the power to resist!
- **We will be told in chapter eight, how we with all of creation groan and labor** as we wait for the manifestation of the children of God, eagerly awaiting for the redemption of our body. The problem is, my spirit is alive, redeemed. But my redeemed spirit is still living in this mortal body of flesh. There is this warfare that is going on. (*Gal 5:17*) *For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.* The mind of man is either controlled and governed by the spirit or by the flesh. Now there is this struggle within, as the flesh still wants to control my mind and thus control me. But the spirit also wants to control my mind. Which one will control over my mind? If my mind is controlled by my flesh, the mind of the flesh is death. I am to consider myself crucified with Christ. Dead with Him, yet alive to God through the resurrection unto God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rom 6:13 And do not present (yield, offer, hand over) your members as instruments (weapons, utensils) of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

- **I can use my body to sin, or I can use my body to glorify God.** I can use my hands for evil or I can use my hands for good. My body can be controlled by my flesh, or it can be controlled by my spirit.
- **Do not yield to the flesh, to the things of the flesh. But yield to the spirit!** Yield your body to the Spirit of God! In chapter twelve, we are told, (*Rom 12:1*) *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service,* which makes sense.
- **Here, we are commanded, don't yield your body as an instrument of sin, but yield it to God.** Lord, here's my body. Take it Lord! Dwell within me by Your Holy Spirit. And use my body, Lord, for Your purposes! I offer my body to You, that You might use my body, Lord, to accomplish Your will and Your desires and Your purposes.

Rom 6:14 *For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.*

- **You don't have to be ruled by sin any longer.** It *'shall not have dominion over you. For you are not under law but under grace.'* The fact that you have died with Christ, means that the law no longer has any authority over you. You are dead to the law. But alive unto God. Now when you say, dead to the law, again people just run to these mental extremes. Oh, dead to the law. Wonderful, it means that I can do whatever I want now! But that is just the flesh talking. That is just the problem that we are dealing with. It doesn't give you the freedom to live after the flesh. What it does, it gives you the freedom to live after God! To completely surrender your life to Him! The principle is that you are dead to those old things. How can you live any longer in them?

Slaves to Righteousness

Rom 6:15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!

- ***What then? Shall we sin,*** which means deliberate and persistent sin. It means continuance in a state of sin, a persistence in the habit of sin. It does not mean to fall in sin occasionally. It means a settled life of sin as in ***(1Jn 3:8-9) He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. [9] Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.***
- ***Because we are not under law but under grace?*** Paul says that we are no longer under that law. We are no longer in the position that our salvation is determined by our actions and our works. Our salvation is entirely of grace and by grace. He is saying that, and no more than that.
- ***Certainly not!*** The very suggestion is utterly unthinkable, monstrous! This should be completely clear to everyone of us. Is it clear to you? Do you feel that his suggested argument is a plausible one? Do you find difficulty in rebutting it?

Rom 6:16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?

- ***Do you not know!*** It was the Apostle's characteristic way of dealing with a difficulty or problem. He does not just appeal to them to surrender themselves and not be worried, but is saying to face this as an argument. That it is such a monstrous thing to raise such a plea against the truth of the Gospel!
- ***That to whom you present yourselves,*** meaning to *present*, yield, to hand yourself over! The Apostle uses an argument from the nature of servant or slaves and their obedience, a thing well known to everyone.
- ***Slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey.*** He is really saying that a man is either a slave to sin, or else he is a slave to grace. The whole argument of this chapter is about the reign of grace, the power of grace and it is a power such as is exercised by a slave-owner, a slave-master. Sin exercises such a power. So does grace!
- ***Whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?*** These two powers, sin and obedience, are entirely different, utterly opposed to each other. They are complete antitheses, both slave-owners and master, but bitterly, violently and eternally opposed to each other.
- ***The difference between sin and obedience is the difference between the devil and God;*** between hell and heaven! It is the difference between lawlessness and rebellion on one side and the holiness, righteousness and the truth of God on the other side, being eternal opposites in their very nature and in the results they produce. The one produces the death that always results from a life of sin. The other produces righteousness, which is an attribute of God Himself! We all proclaim whose slaves we are by the way in which we live!

Rom 6:17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.

- ***But God be thanked.*** I thank God that you, who were once servants of sin, are no longer of that

character, but you have now obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you, which is really telling us what is true of a Christian!

- ***That though you were slaves of sin!*** You were! That is what was once true of you, but is no longer true. You are now in an entirely different position than you were before your being saved and born again! The terms were that you must be born again! Regeneration, new creation is essential! (**2Co 5:17**) *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.* The change is as great as that!
- ***You were slaves of sin.*** Man is a slave of sin by nature. Man is not born neutral with the possibility of deciding to which of the two masters he will yield himself and sell himself. No, he is born a *slave of sin*, as was proved in **Rom 5:12-21**. These are the New Testament terms, such as we are told in (**Eph 2:3**) *among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.*
- ***Yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered!*** There is your will! ***From the heart!*** There is your emotion. ***The form of doctrine*** delivered you. How do you apprehend ***doctrine***: You do so with your mind. Therefore, the change a man undergoes to become a Christian is a change that affects him in his mind, his heart, and his will. His entire personality is involved.

Rom 6:18 *And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness*

- **You were once slaves of sin, but oh, thank God, through obedience to His Word, you became slaves of righteousness!** You were enslaved to righteousness. Not only have we become the slaves, but we have been enslaved to righteousness! Before, we were enslaved to sin. We have now become enslaved to righteousness, being delivered over unto the form of doctrine. This is not compulsion. This is joyous freedom! We are no longer slaves to sin! We are slaves of Jesus Christ! Nothing gives a man the joy of the Lord so much as an understanding of the doctrine of redemption, and a living experience of its power!

Rom 6:19 *I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present* (an exhortation, a command) *your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.*

- ***I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh.*** That is what we are dealing with here, the weakness of our flesh. As the Lord said to Peter, the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. That's the problem, Peter. It's not your spirit. Your desires are right. Your flesh is weak. We have, all of us, I'm certain, come to that same realization, that it is hard to live up to my expectations and my own desires.
- ***I desire to serve God fully and completely.*** I desire to be committed. I desire all of these things. But my flesh often is rebelling against the spirit. I don't always do those things that I should. I think, oh, I'm so tired, I know I ought to but I'm just tired tonight and I yield to the flesh. So often, we know what we should do, but the flesh is weak. Paul said, I'm writing and speaking to you after the manner of men because of the weakness of your flesh.
- ***For just as you presented your members*** (your members of your body) *as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.* You've yielded yourself to sin. Now yield yourself to God! Give your body to God. Offer it to God!
- ***How do I present my members as slaves of righteousness for holiness?*** Christ's blood has been shed for me! Therefore, with all I am and all I have, as I used to go in the old evil direction, I must now rise up and go in this holy direction! I must do it! Where do I get the power to do it? You have already received all things that pertain unto a life of godliness. You do not need another experience. You do not need some new gift. You have been given everything in Christ! You are *in Him* from the beginning of your Christian life. You are just lazy and idle, indeed a liar, if you are not living this life. That is the New Testament way of preaching holiness and sanctification.

Rom 6:20 *For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.*

- **You weren't doing righteous things**, not even caring about such things. You were a slave to sin. You were totally devoted to it!

Rom 6:21 *What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.*

- **What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed?** Looking back to the old life, the things that you did. What do you have to show for it? What fruit do you have? There is nothing worthwhile or lasting that is done in the flesh. What fruit do you have from that old life governed by your flesh. In the things that you did of which you are now ashamed? Oh, how could I have ever done that, you know?
- **For the end of those things is death.** A life of the flesh will end in death. Now, the life of the flesh for us has ended in death! We were baptized into His death. We were crucified with Him. Had that not been the case, ultimately it would have just ended in our death, spiritually and physically. **(Pro 9:17-18)** *"Stolen water is sweet, And bread eaten in secret is pleasant." [18] But he does not know that the dead are there, That her guests are in the depths of hell.*

Rom 6:22 *But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.*

- **Now that this transformation has taken place.** Now that I'm yielding myself to God to be a servant of God. The effect of that is holiness! Living a holy life. No longer polluted by the world and the things of the world and the things of the flesh. A life of purity. A life of holiness. The end result of that is everlasting life!

Rom 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

- **For the wages of sin is death,** It has never changed! The reward of a sinful life is death.
- **But** (in contrast) **the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.** Here I am with choices. The choice to live after my flesh or the choice to live after the spirit. To yield my body to fulfill the desires of my flesh. Or to yield my body to God, that He might use it to His purposes. To walk after the flesh or to walk after the spirit!
- **Now God has made provisions whereby I don't have to be ruled over by the body any longer.** I can now live a new life ruled and governed by the spirit! That is my choice. Whether or not my life will be ruled by the flesh or by the spirit. But the wages of sin, the life of the flesh, is death. But this wonderful gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ!

SUMMARY:

- **Dead to Sin, Alive to God - vs. 1-14;** Being told in chapter five, *where sin abounded, grace abounded much more*, it could be wrongly assumed that we should continue in sin that grace may abound! The dramatic translation from Adam's sin of death and darkness, into that of Christ's life and light, through our wonderful union with and in Christ, giving us these fantastic and awesome blessings and promises.
- **As many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death.** What sort of baptism is this, that incorporates us into Christ and joins us to Him? **(1Co 12:13)** *For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.* We believers are all joined to Him, and we are all joined to one another.
- **Our old man, our Adamic nature, is now dead to sin!** However, our mortal bodies will not be free from sin until our last breath!
- **From Slaves to Sin to Slaves of God – vs. 15-23;** Here we see that mighty translation of us believers from being born into slaves of sin to that of being slaves of righteousness to holiness, with the result of

(Rom 6:22-23) But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. [23] For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- **I'm no longer a slave to sin and fear! I am a child of God!**

NO LONGER SLAVES Jonathan/Melissa Helser, Bethel Music (2:57/3:01)

You unravel me With a melody You surround me with a song
Of deliverance From my enemies 'Til all my fears are gone
I'm no longer a slave to fear I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear I am a child of God

From my mother's womb You have chosen me Love has called my name
I've been born again Into Your family Your blood flows through my veins

I'm no longer a slave to fear I am a child of God (6X)

CLOSING PRAYER: Read and meditate over Romans Chapter 7!