

Romans 6:1 *so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Paul just used chapter five to prove that it is not our sin that makes us a sinner, rather we were born into the world with a sin nature and that is what compelled us to sin. God is not judging us for sin or is demanding us to live holy in order to be right with Him. This is the Good News that Jesus paid it all and we pay nothing. If the gospel is being preached the way Paul preached it the logical question that should be brought up when anyone hears the message of grace is; can we just go live in sin? Paul dealt with this same criticism as well where people said he was out encouraging sin. So, the question is should we just go live in sin since God is no longer judging us for sin? The answer is God forbid or absolutely not!

Most people fear grace and that God is not imputing sin on man (2 Cor 5:19) because they will feel God's judgment is what constrained them to refrain from sin and they fear they may go live in sin since they are now free (Gal 5:13). This could be no further from the truth. God's love and grace is what compels us to not sin and it teaches us to deny ungodliness (2 Cor 5:14, Titus 2:12).

What will teach man to live Holy now that it is not because of God's wrath and judgement? The Word (2 Tim 3:16), the Holy Spirit (Jn 14:26), Grace (Titus 2:12), and the Old Testament (Rom 15:4).

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

There are two reasons Paul lists in chapter six as to why man should not live in sin and the first reason is found in this verse. Anyone born again should not go live in sin because the old sin nature that compelled us to sin is dead. Our old man is dead and old things have passed away and all things have become new (2 Cor 5:17). We have a new heart and the desire to sin is gone.

The appetite for sin has ceased for a believer. Sin no longer feels the same for a Christian. Why? Because God now lives in us and when we go into the bar, He is right there reminding us of our righteousness and worth. Not condemning us, but convicting us (Jn 16:8-10).

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

The Greek word for baptized is baptizō and means to immerse or submerged. We were not only immersed into His death; we were also immersed into His resurrection. Water baptism does not save us but the moment we believe on Jesus, water baptism should follow. Water baptism is an outward decision of an inward change. Immersion into water is the burial of the old man and coming out is the resurrection of the new man.

When Jesus died on the cross and we put faith into His finished works for the payment of our sins then our old sin nature died as well. When He died, we died. That old man is dead and buried. The question may come up; if my old sin nature is dead then why do I still feel the effects of him?

A car can be running and on but the moment the battery dies and the engine is cut off, it does not mean that car is still running. You may be able to still hear the engine that was on, the hood may still be hot and the effects of the car being on may be there but reality is that the car is dead regardless of the lasting effects. Likewise, just because the old man left behind lasting effects does not mean that we still have a sin nature. He is dead and to reign in this life we need to reckon him dead.

It is important to note the apostle Paul ask a question. He states in this verse, “do you not know”. Paul also addresses the church of Corinth which was one of Paul’s most dysfunctional churches and he uses similar questions to bring them back to their identity. “Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?” (2 Cor 13:5) and “Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?” (1 Cor 3:16).

Romans 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.

The Greek word for buried is *sunthaptō* and means to *inter* in company *with*. When Jesus was buried; our old man was buried. What Jesus experienced; we experience.

If we were to place a pen in a book and throw the book into the ocean, whatever the book experiences then the pen will too experience. This is due to the pen being inside the book. We are now in Christ and experience what Jesus has.

If we identify with His death, we should also identify with His resurrection. Jesus experienced death plus resurrection; we too experienced death to our old man and have been raised from the dead with a new righteous nature. Man is three part being; we are a spirit, we have a soul, and live in a physical body (1 Thes 5:23). The part of us that was born into this world with a sin nature was our spirit man. Once we put faith in Jesus that sinful nature dies and we receive a new spirit and become a brand-new species of being (2 Cor 5:17).

The only way to experience this new life is through understanding that the old man dead. If we fail to acknowledge the old man is dead, we will entertain the idea that we have a sin nature that compels us to sin and that is not true.

Romans 6:5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

This verse is again emphasizing our death to the old man and our new life in the new man. The reason Jesus came was to give us newness of life (Rom 6:4). Resurrection life is ours and is in us but we have to know what took place at the New Birth to experience it.

Romans 6:6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

The word know in Greek is ginōskō and means to be sure. This verse starts by saying knowing this. If we do not know what Paul is about to say, chances are we are living a defeated Christian life. Paul says here that our old man has been crucified. If we are not sure that the old man is dead, we will give our self an excuse to sin because we think that's just a part of us but when revelation comes that the source of what compelled us to sin is dead, we will be able to walk in our new identity free from sin.

Many churches today minister on how to stop sinning or how to get free. A believer is actually dead to sin, not trying to die from it.

Imagine if you had a wild dog that had very erratic behaviors and that needed constant attention and care because he was sporadic, and you never knew what you were going to get. Your entire life revolved around this wild dog's behavior and your life was up and down because of this dog. What if the dog died but you still lived and centered your life around this dog's behavior. In reality you are free from the wild actions that the dog produced and you are free to live your life in peace now but if you did not know that dog was dead you would be subject to still thinking he is not and live your life revolved around something that is dead. Your entire life could be affected by this and as a result a person could be in bondage to something that is dead. Likewise, that old sin nature that drove us sin is no longer alive and our life should not be involved with thinking we can't help ourself.

A believer is not trying to get free from addiction or pornography; you've already been set free.

We are no longer slaves to sin means that old nature that was the source from which we sinned is now dead (Rom 6:22). Anyone reading this may be asking if the root of why I sinned is dead, then why do I still sin? It is not our spirit man that sins but we still have a flesh or body that was left behind and an unrenewed mind. The rest of the Christian life is renewing our mind to the new man because the old man left behind habits and thoughts that now need to be reprogrammed (Rom 12:2, Eph 4:23).

It is similar to starting a new job. The old job will not function the same as the new one and the person will now need to renew their mind to the new position they are in. We now have a new position in Christ (Gal 2:20). We need to allow this reality to dominate our life and not the old man.

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

When a person is born into this world, they are dead **in** sin and trapped. Once a person puts faith in Jesus, they become dead **to** sin. The word freed in the Greek is dikaioo and means to render just or innocent or to be declared righteous. A believer is declared just or righteous the moment they believe on Jesus, not when their actions are perfect.

An animal can be chained his entire life but someone can come and release those chains for his freedom but that animal can stay bound to the same area he was in just as if he were still chained if he does not know those chains have been cut.

Romans 6:8 *Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,*

Our union with Christ is the goal of the cross. The goal of the cross was to bring us back into relationship with God. The old man kept us separated but our new man in Christ unites us.

The last words Jesus spoke in His High Priestly prayer was “I in them” (Jn 17:26).

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

The Greek word for dominion is *kurieuō* and means to be lord of. Is sin Lording it over you? Is it controlling your life? If you are born again, sin is not the issue; it is a mindset and way of thinking. The previous verses state that we have to know the old man is dead and start to identify with the new man, this will break the power of sin. A believer now has the Spirit of God inside of them that brings the flesh under subjection. We simply walk in the spirit or in other words allow what’s in the spirit to dominate us.

Jesus came and died once and for all. He died 2,000 years ago and is not coming back to die a second time. There was one sacrifice and now there is no more offering for sin (Heb 10:18). Likewise, when our old sin nature died that was it; he is dead and buried. We are not born again, again. The moment we became one with Christ, our spirits were sealed by the Holy Spirit and sin can no longer penetrate our spirit man (Eph 1:13, 1 John 3:9). We should treat the old man like an enemy.

Death is a result of anything that came from sin and sin is the root of all corruption in the world. Poverty, sickness, depression, and fear all stem from death. We could say here that sickness and grief will no longer have dominion over you either because it does not have dominion over Him and we are identical to Him now (1 Jn 4:17).

Romans 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.*

We do not need to keep dying to sin. When we received our new born again nature we became a new creature (2 Cor 5:21), made righteous (Eph 4:24), our spirit became sealed by the holy spirit (Eph 1:13), and now whoever is born of God cannot sin (1 John 3:9).

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

The word reckon in Greek is *logizomai* and means to conclude or count. We need to count the old man dead and that we are already alive unto God. We have already been made alive, raised, and seated with Him in heavenly places (Eph 2:5-6).

Right living does not come through behavior modification. Right living comes through right believing. Are you believing that you are in right standing with God? Do you believe that you still have a good dog and bad dog and you cannot help but sin? If we believe this, that is the very reason we are not seeing the power of sin broken over our lives.

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

This is a command, not a suggestion. God would not command us to do something we are unable to do. Notice this command comes after Paul establishes the old man being dead and us being alive with the life of God in us now. We are capable of walking free from sin because God's spirit indwells us and empowers us to walk in righteousness (2 Cor 9:8).

The Greek word for reign is *basileuō* and means to be king or to rule. A believer's spirit should be king, their soul should be their servant, and their body now their slaves.

Once there is a revelation of vertically being right with God, that will compel us to live right horizontally. Through grace we can resist sin. Grace is God's divine ability to do what we could not do in our own strength.

Romans 6:13 *And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.*

Members is speaking of what the old man left behind. These are thoughts and ways of thinking. The way the enemy takes a believer captive now is not through sin, is it through a way of thinking (Col 2:8).

The Greek word for instruments is *hoplon* and is referring to a tool. A tool is something a person puts to work. We used to have an old man that the scriptures have commanded us to put off that was once used as a tool to lie, steal, and slander but now we need to put on the new man that speaks truth, gives, and uses our words to edify (Eph 4:22-29).

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

This verse does not say that sin may occasionally control you. It is very clear that sin should not have control or rule over a believer.

The strength of sin is the Law (1 Cor 15:56). A person under grace is free from sin but anyone operating under a performance-based system; do good get good is only strengthening sin. Since we are not under the law but under grace sin should not dominate us. Demons get their strength from law keeping. Anytime we try to do good to be right with God we are operating in our flesh and remove ourselves from grace. Falling from grace is basically getting into self-effort (Gal 5:4). The enemy loves when we use our own ability and strength because we are powerless in ourselves. Operating under grace and God's ability in us breaks the power of sin in our lives.

Holiness is a fruit of salvation not the root. Holiness does not produce fellowship with God, but fellowship with God will produce holiness. The law demanded holiness but grace supplies it. When the law came in it commanded you to do the very thing you were incapable of doing. This was the intention of the law; was to show us we could never be right with God based on our goodness.

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

Paul asks the question he opened the chapter with in this verse. Shall we just go live in sin since we are under grace and not the law? In other words, shall I just commit adultery now that God is not judging me? Shall I rob someone because God has declared me innocent and righteous? The answer is found in the next verse.

It truly takes the Holy Spirit to reveal grace to a person. The world's system is based off performance and rewards. The apostle Paul spent time in the desert sorting out legalism and grace that came by revelation and was not taught by man (Gal 1:12).

The question Paul asks in this verse should come to mind when hearing the message of grace or the gospel.

Romans 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?*

This is the second reason why we should not go live in sin. Reason one is because we have a new nature that is no longer a sin nature that compels us to sin and sin just does not feel the same anymore. It is not a part of us. The second reason we do not live in sin is that we open a pathway for the devil to enter into our life. God is not judging us but whoever we obey we become slaves to. This verse says whom we obey not what. When we yield ourselves to sin we yield ourselves to the devil and his only motive is to steal, kill, and destroy (Jn 10:10). Whatever we worship we will become.

God is not judging us for sin but sin has its own consequences. God is not punishing us but sin will attack us and not let go. Sin leads to death (Rom 6:23, Gal 6:8).

If a dog is on his own property, he is safe but when he moves into someone else's territory he is no longer secure but is liable to get bit or attacked. Sin is the same way. We are on the high ground with Jesus and we have to step down from our position and get involved in sin. Once we get on sin's territory the enemy now has legal access to do what he wants with us. We are the ones that moved, not God.

Romans 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.*

Salvation comes through hearing the gospel, believing and then we were sealed by the Holy spirit (Eph 1:13). If we confess with our mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in our heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, then we are saved (Rom 10:9).

The Greek word for obeyed is *hupakouō* and means to harken to a command. Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord is saved (Rom 10:13). This scripture does not say whoever works for their salvation is saved.

God should be the one thanked because He did all the work, we just receive.

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

This verse says we are free from sin. The Greek word for free in this scripture is *eleutheroō* and means to deliver or liberate. Anyone who says they just can't stop and they are born again is deceived. Grace empowers us to walk free from sin (Titus 2:12). The problem in the Christian life is not sin, it is an unrenewed mind to our new identity and who the new man is.

A slave is someone who gives himself wholly to another. Righteousness is the doctrine concerning the way in which man may attain a state approved of God and that is through the gospel of grace, not the law. It is through the gospel that we give ourselves wholly to a person not a formula (2 Tim 1:12).

Romans 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 your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.*

Our flesh was impacted by sin and is still in under the fall from Genesis chapter three. The flesh is weak and what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His Son (Mt 26:41, Rm 8:3).

Our spirit has the life of God and is the source we should be living from. The same way the old sin nature produced death is the same way our new righteous nature should be releasing life.

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

Being a slave to something means you are bound to it. There is not any amount of good acts that can change a man's sin nature, they must be born again (Jn 3:3). Any person that has not received Jesus still has a fallen nature and the only way to change that sin nature is to get born again. Everyone before Jesus had a dead spirit that was disconnected from God (Gal 3:22, Eph 5:8).

Romans 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.*

When we were children of the devil, we produced fruit but it was unto death. The characteristics of the old man are listed in Galatians 5:19-21. The flesh is not independent of producing something. It will produce death and it profits us nothing when we yield to our flesh (John 6:63).

Romans 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.

This verse clearly says that we are free from sin (2 Cor 2:11). Sin has no more dominion over us unless we are ignorant of the death to the old man.

Romans 6:20 states that we were slaves to sin but now that we have a new righteous nature that are slaves to righteousness. If there are no amount of good actions could change our old sin nature, then there is no amount of bad actions that can change our righteous nature. When a believer sins, it is in their soul and their body, but it will not penetrate their born-again spirit because that spirit is sealed (2 Cor 1:22). Since we have a new righteous nature, the fruit is now holiness.

Romans chapter six is compatible to Romans chapter one that discusses our freedom from sin. When we move into Romans chapter seven it is compatible with Romans chapter two that discusses our freedom from the law.

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

When Adam transgressed against God his spirit died and became separated from God. Everyone born after Adam was also born with a sin nature (Rom 5:12) and the penalty for sin is death. Man had to pay up and deserved to go to hell but God was not satisfied being disconnected from His first love so He became the very thing that separated us.

Man became in dept to God but the problem was man could not afford the bill that they owed. Gods' justice demanded perfection (Ps 22:3, Mt 5:48) and fallen man could not offer that to God so we were in a hopeless situation; slaves to sin, bound to the devil, and headed to hell. God stepped down as a sinless man to pay for our sins and usher us into His kingdom (Jn. 6:38).

The payment for sin is death but anyone who accepts Jesus avoids the payment that is owed. If someone chooses to reject Jesus, payday is coming and they will experience ultimate death which is eternal separation from God. There are two deaths mentioned in the Bible. The first one took place when Adam transgressed against God and is where we experienced a spiritual death. The second death is for anyone who does not accept Jesus.

Death is a result of anything that came from sin. When sin entered the world so did poverty, murder, sickness, fear and anything else that does not produce life.