

ROMANS 6:1-23: Dead to Sin - Deliverance from Sin

I. Introduction

Romans 6 starts off with Apostle Paul asking us a very key question and sets the stage for the next couple of chapters on the topic of sin, the law and grace. Romans 6:1 says ““What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?”. And then Paul continues on to immediately answer that question with a resounding “NO”. Paul explains the symbolism in Jesus’ death and resurrection: that believers themselves died with Christ, meaning all believers died to the power of sin and were resurrected when Christ resurrected from the dead. This enables us to live life for the glory of God as Christ did.

Through the power made available to us in Christ Jesus, sin has lost its power in our lives. He further explains that because that control was lost, sin can no longer dictate how we as believers conduct our lives. Once this is understood, the Believer now has freedom to use their own life and body as instruments to live completely for God and His glory. The requirements of the law (the Mosaic law, the Old Testament Law) have no rule over us, but it is now the grace of God that frees us to live unrestricted in Christ.

Apostle Paul asks another key question in verse 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?”. He introduced here the importance of the decision that must be made by each believer to either be a slave to sin or be a slave (live in obedience) to God.

The chapter outlines the end result of each path which allows the reader to make an objective choice of which path to take. The chapter ends with verse 23 - “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” This allows the reader to decide for themselves whether they want to pay the hefty price of sin or receive the free gift of life by the acceptance of our Lord Jesus Christ.

II. Study the Scriptures: Read the Passage Romans 6:1-23

Note your thoughts as you read:

Write down any questions that come to mind as you read:

III. Think Through the Following Questions:

1. What is the significance in Paul going back to the story of Jesus Christ dying on the cross and resurrecting back to life on the third day?
2. Why do you think throughout this chapter Apostle Paul compares the life of a believer to slavery?

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3. In verse 4, Paul uses the term “newness of life”, what life is he referring to here?
4. In verse 14, it says “For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.” Discuss the difference between the requirements of the law versus the grace of God.
5. In verse 16-17, Paul mentions the idea of “choice” and “obedience”, discuss in depth the decision he is referring to here.
6. In verse 18, Paul calls believers ‘slaves’ no matter which decision they make, what is the purpose in him doing that?
7. The chapter ends discussing life versus death using monetary or compensatory terms, why is that?

IV. Lessons Learned: Are there any new things you learned from this passage today?

V. Application: How Do You think this will impact your thinking and/or actions going forward?