October 4, 2026 Freedom Session 5 Romans 6:1-14

Death To Sin (Romans 6:1-7) p. 48

What should we say then? Have you ever thought about the other answer, the other side of an argument? Does more sin produce more of God's grace; like getting "more bang for your buck"? God can't love us more than He already does, and God has given us all the grace we need. Some faulty reasoning would be to conclude that continuing in sin would result in God extending additional grace to sinners. And if God's glory is seen in the grace He gives, then continued sin would lead to more glory for God. God gets more glory from our obedience.

Luke 7:41-42 *"There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and one only fifty. And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?"* The only thing that changes is on us. The more we understand the depth of God's love, the more we know who God is, and the stronger our relationship with Him is, the greater our love for God will become. We will not want to disobey such a holy, just, and loving God. No one who claims the power of the gospel should intentionally go looking for chances to sin. All have sinned and earned the wrath of a just God. Reconciliation with God comes not through law keeping or doing good, but by the grace of God alone through faith in His Son, Jesus, who died and rose from the dead for the forgiveness of sins for all who believe.

Vs. 2 How can we who died to sin still live in it? Born-again persons, dead-to-sin persons, could not by their very new nature comfortably continue living a sinful lifestyle. **2 Corinthians 5:17** *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."* We are new creatures in Christ not because of keeping the law, but because we surrendered our lives to Him, we are obedient to His commands, and empowered and guided by His Spirit. Sin is no longer the default or comfortable behavior. Have any of you given up previous lifestyles to follow Christ?

Vs. 3 I hope you remember the day you were baptized. It wasn't just some church thing that you did but a public proclamation that you now belong to Jesus. Baptism symbolizes Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. It is a spiritual reality that, through baptism and faith, believers share in Jesus' death and resurrection. Paul explains that when someone trusts in Christ, their old sinful self is considered dead and buried with Him, just as He was buried after the crucifixion. This symbolizes leaving behind the old life of sin. Rising from that burial represents living a new life empowered by the resurrection of Christ free from sin's control. It also reminds us that giving our lives to Christ involves being buried with Him. Baptism gives expression to a very real transformation in the life of the believer, death followed by a new life.

Vs. 5 Baptism also symbolizes the union of the believer with Christ: “united with Him in the likeness of His death… in the likeness of His resurrection.” The term “united” was also used to describe the grafting of a branch into a tree.
The two parts would become one. Two previously separated elements grow together so that they are intrinsically connected. Thus, the believer comes to share the likeness of Christ. Becoming united with Christ results in a new life and in living as committed Christ-followers, as a people united with Him to the extent that they grow in likeness of Jesus.
Vs. 6-7 Remember your old self? I do: futility of mind and darkened understanding, alienation from God, and spiritual ignorance. Such separation from God and hardness of heart lead to ungodly behavior. **Ephesians 4:17-18** *“This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind. Having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart,”* The old self was crucified with Christ and thus crucified to the world. No longer bound by the power of sin to the old life, the believer is freed to live directed by the presence, example, and power of Jesus. In this way, the body ruled by sin was rendered powerless. Before Jesus, sin separated the sinner from God, and destined the sinner for God’s wrath. Sin leads to more sin and guilt. Salvation through Christ, frees the believer from the bonds of sin. Once freed from sin, believers are free to grow in Christlikeness. We now live a new life, not out of obligation to a system of laws but as an outgrowth of our relationship with the living Christ. What are some ways God helps you overcome the inclination to sin?

Alive In Christ (Romans 6:8-11) p. 50
Freed from the penalty and power of sin, the believer is free to live in relationship with God. Since the Christian has died to sin with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. This is the reality and conviction that shapes the believer’s present and future. “*We will also live with Him”* is a phrase that points forward to being with Christ in the eternal kingdom of God and is true during our earthly life. Believers are no longer separated from the Father by their sin, so their walk with Him and His influence in their lives is immediate and real. The presence of the Spirit of Christ provides guidance for godly living. We battle against the influences of the world, but we do not do so alone. We have the power of the Spirit. **Ephesians 6:13-18** *“Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and*

supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints…" God tells us how to fight the enemy!
Vs. 10 Jesus' death produced a permanent result. His work achieved all that was needed, so it need never be repeated. Beyond His death to sin came the resurrection to life. Jesus' earthly ministry was conducted in the realm of sin and focused on defeating the power of sin. The life He lives [post-resurrection] He lives to God. Jesus lived in service to the Father throughout His earthly ministry. With that mission complete, Jesus' resurrected life is in the realm of God's glory. Those who live in union with Christ share in His death and resurrection, just as baptism depicts.

Instruments Of Righteousness (Romans 6:12-14) p. 52
The work of Christ has defeated sin and death. Those united with Him through faith share in His victory. Removing the sin and guilt that stands as a barrier between the sinner and God allows a person to live in relationship with God. Embracing this truth should mark the beginning of a transformed life. Paul portrayed sin as a cruel taskmaster. Sin dominates and enslaves those who live under its authority. The normal Christian life is one of facing temptation and struggle while growing in godliness. What are some ways that sin dominates and enslaves a person?
Vs. 13 Ultimately, Christ's victory assures us that our eternal future is secure—this his mortal body must put on immortality as part of the eternal kingdom of God.
1 Corinthians 15:50-53 *"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."* Before we came to Christ, our mortal bodies were weapons for unrighteousness. The enemy used us in his battle against God. But now, we offer ourselves to God as weapons for righteousness. The word offer points to the Old Testament sacrificial system and worship. We offer ourselves now as living a sacrifice. When we yield to God, we become weapons for His righteous purposes.
Vs. 14 Through Christ, the dominion of sin has been broken. It will not determine the Christian's future, and it ought not shape his or her present either. Believers are redeemed children of God. That is the relationship that determines who they are and therefore should shape how they behave. Christians live under grace, alive to God. By grace through faith in Christ they are new creatures, empowered by the Spirit, guided by love, taught by the words and example of Jesus. Christians are raised in new life through their union with Christ. Their destiny is not determined by how well they keep the law, nor is fear of the law the motivating factor in their behavior. Christians are guided by an intimate and

transforming relationship with the One who gave the law. Jesus offered Himself freely on the cross so that we might now freely offer ourselves to God. As believers in Christ, we have a responsibility to declare war on sin in our lives.