

ROMANS 6:13-23

Review:

1. Last week, we looked at how we are to live godly lives by two of the three key words in Chapter 6. Paul showed us:
 - *We are to KNOW (to know the facts of Christ's D.B.R.) &
 - *We are to RECKON (to count on these facts and consider them true).
2. This brings us to the 3rd key word in this chapter - YIELD (we are to yield, or present our bodies as instruments of righteousness unto God). This just means we are not to present the members of our body to sin, but to yield from the tools of wickedness.

1. Our obligation is to turn control of our members to God to be used in the cause of righteousness.

Romans 6:13 - Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.

*Remember- we have been raised to life from death, as we were shown to walk in newness of life in Romans 6:4 - *Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

2. In this verse 13, Paul gives the command to stop yielding to sin. Do not put your body members for sin to use. Do not make your body available for the potential to be used unrighteously.
 3. What do we then present to God? The answer is found in Romans 12:1-2 - *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. Rom. 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*
 4. Our new motivation is that we understand that our sinning had been used in the past by the enemy against God. We have to remind ourselves over and over who and what we are in Christ - to strive to live Christ-like.
1. The first reason that sin shall not reign over us was that the "old man" was crucified with Christ in Romans 6:6.

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

*The second reason is that we are not under law, but under grace.

2. The law was incapable to protect people against the damnation of sin. The law could never empower man to live godly, but to only condemn one for their sin. The law demands, but it gives no ability to perform correctly.
 - *The law tells one what to do, but does not give one the power to do it.
3. Paul says being under grace provides our ability to become Christ-like. Grace encourages holiness and sanctification.

Titus 2:11-12 - For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Titus 2:12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

*Believers, under grace, are motivated by their love for the Savior-Jesus Christ and want to get hold of God's Word. They are not dependent on their own efforts, but on the abundant supply of God's grace.

Romans 6:15 - What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.

1. Paul now asks a couple more questions to his brethren. Paul meets this error head-on by asking the question and then flatly denying it!

*The questions is: "Shall we sin just a little? We are under grace!" Absolutely not! God will not condone any sin at all.

2. Lost people fail to understand the grace of God. They think grace gives you a license to sin. But grace is not a license to have freedom to sin, but it is a liberty not to sin.
3. God is not going to bring us into the blessing of this new liberty unless we really want it. Service to sin ends in death. Paul explains to us in the next verse that we are slaves to whomever we obey.

Romans 6:16 - Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

1. Paul now asks another question - who are you to be a slave to? Slave to sin or to righteousness?
2. In this verse, Paul gives a principle that is true of everything in life. If we turn ourselves over to somebody else - that person becomes our master. We are slaves of whomever we obey and serve.
 - a. If we sell out to sin, we become slaves of sin and an eternal death lies waiting at the end of life.
 - b. If, on the other hand, we choose to obey God, the result is a holy life and good standing with God. The gospel not only delivers us from the penalty and power of sin, but it shapes our character as well.
1. In this letter to the Roman Christians, Paul thanks God, that when they were servants of sin, they gave a

Romans 6:17 - But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

wholehearted obedience to the gospel of grace. They committed to it, including all the doctrine that had been delivered to them.

2. This verse reminds us of what we are from our hearts.

Romans 10:9-10 - That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. Rom. 10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

*To obey from the heart is to believe in the gospel (the D.B.R.).

Romans 6:18 - Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

1. Sound doctrine sets believers free and gives them a freedom to serve God.

Galatians 5:1 - Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

2. Correct doctrine should lead to correct duty. The context shows that is referring to freedom from sin over your life.

Romans 6:19 - I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

1. In this verse, Paul describes the unsaved life. It was free and untouched in regards to godliness. It did not feel or sense that God was needed, or that it should keep God's ways.
2. Here you see Paul using that key word, "yield" twice in this verse. He did this back in verse 16, by applying the principle that you are under somebody's ownership. It is your responsibility to obey them and to yield.
3. Paul speaks here in human terms and uses an illustration to make what he is saying clearer and more understandable.

*When he says "the infirmity of the flesh", he is referring to their weakness of their bodies and allowing it to influence their behavior in life.

Romans 7:18 - For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.

4. Before conversion, the believers had surrendered their bodies as slaves of all kinds of uncleanness, doing one kind of wickedness after another.

*But now, after conversion, they should dedicate those same bodies as "slaves of righteousness". So, now their members become righteous unto holiness. Holiness is what sets us apart from the practice of sin.

1. When they were servants of sin, the only freedom they knew was freedom from righteousness. What a desperate condition to be bound by evil and untouched to godliness. This is the condition of the natural

Romans 6:20 - For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.

man described in I Corinthians 2:14 - *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

2. The fact that believers have the righteousness of God, through our relationship "in Christ", is the reason for us to live godly.

I Corinthians 7:22-23 - For he that is called in the Lord, *being* a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, *being* free, is Christ's servant. 1Cor. 7:23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

3. When we were servants of sin, we were in sin and uncleanness. We need to remind ourselves of what we were and what we are now because of God's grace.

*We were slaves to sin, but became slaves to righteousness. This shows our position in Christ.

Romans 6:21 - What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things *is* death.

1. As we look back when we were unsaved and free from godliness, this caused us to be fruitless of anything done for God.
2. Paul challenges them (and us) to inventory the fruits we are to have: the fruits of an unsaved person (having fruits in those activities of which believers are now ashamed), or do we show the fruits of the Spirit in our daily lives - where God is pleased?
3. In the end, sin and shame bring death and become who we were in our character and our soul. But now, Paul tells us in the next verse that we are saved and placed in Christ. We are dead to sin and alive in Christ. We have the good fruits of holiness in us.

1. "But now" says what a contrast. What a difference the grace of God has made. We are no longer the way

Romans 6:22 - But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

we were when lost and without Christ.

2. Conversion changes a person's position completely. Now we are "free from sin" as our master and we become a willing slave (servant) to God.
3. The result is to live a holy life now and an everlasting life at the end of our journey.

1 Thessalonians 4:7 - For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

1. "Wages" is the pay we deserve, because as sinners we worked and earned it. By a life of evil works, one has earned not only a physical death, but also a spiritual death.

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All mankind will experience a physical death and no one will be exempt from it. But, the person who is in Christ has eternal life with Him and will not have to experience a second death - which is the spiritual death = a separation from God.

2. The "gift" is completely different from wages. The one is earned (wages), but the other is not earned or deserved at all.

*The gift belongs to God, which He will grant to those who believe in His Son Jesus Christ and what He accomplished for us at Calvary. Jesus Christ is the only way to an everlasting life with God.

John 14:6 - Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

I Timothy 2:5 - For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

3. The Apostle Paul summarizes by showing two vivid contrasts of the choices you have to accept in life:

*Two masters - Sin or God

*Two methods - Wages or Free Gift

*Two results - Death or Eternal Life

4. That eternal life is in the Person - Jesus Christ - our Lord!
It's just that simple!

*Next week: We start Chapter 7 that shows us the struggles of our two natures within us.