

Risen to New Life
Romans 6:5-14

May 3, 2015

A. What About Sin?

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1. Freed from Sin

2. Keeping Free

^A Genesis 2:16-17; Romans 5:12

^B Romans 6:3

^C Galatians 2:20

^D Colossians 2:13, 3:1

^E Romans 10:9-10; Colossians 1:13; John 8:36

A. What About Sin?

1. Sin Separates

- a. that is the sad fact
- b. it is true of human relationships
 - (A) when one wrongs a friend
 - (B) betrays the trust of a parent or child
 - (C) or does wrong to a husband or wife
 - (D) the relationship is broken
 - (E) and a barrier comes between two people
- c. it is also true in the relationship between God and man
 - (A) when Adam and Eve disobeyed God in that very first, simple, commandment that He gave to them, “16 ... From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; 17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.” (Genesis 2:16-17)
 - (B) sin was introduced into the human race
 - (C) all of its consequences – for every descendant of this first couple has inherited the sin nature
 - (D) “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned” (Romans 5:12)
 - (E) in Adam in that day all surely did die, for mankind was separated from the Living God – that is the essence of death: separation
- d. so, the same as in those human relationships that are broken, so there is a need in our spiritual relationship with God that is broken
 - (A) that need is reconciliation
 - (B) and to meet that need ...

2. God Has a Solution

- a. two weeks ago we looked at Romans 6:1-5
 - (A) and looked at the first aspect of this reconciliation
 - (B) that aspect is justification – removal of the barrier that prevents us having a relationship with God – the guilt consequence of sin
 - (C) by faith in Christ’s bearing your sin, or my sin, on the cross

- (D) when we are immersed into Christ as in Romans 6:3, "Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized (immersed) into Christ Jesus have been baptized (immersed) into His death?" (Romans 6:3)
- (E) then God can look upon us through the righteousness of Christ
- (F) and see us just as if we had never sinned
- (G) in Christ then, we can boldly meet our Father God
- (H) this is the immediate and enduring effect of salvation
- (I) but God's solution – his salvation does not stop at this point
- b. today, we are going to continue to examine this theme of being immersed into Christ – being made one, united with Him
 - (A) the emphasis moves from justification to sanctification
 - (1) from being made right in God's sight
 - (2) to God's work in us making us fit for His presence
 - (B) verses 6 to 11, that being immersed into Christ brings regeneration
 - (1) regeneration is the necessary first step of sanctification
 - (2) our old, fallen nature is incapable of pleasing God
 - (3) being born again with a new nature allows us to make the 180° turn in our life wholly turned around; to be converted
 - (4) as with justification this is an immediate result of salvation, but its effect only becomes apparent over one's lifetime
 - (C) verse 12-14, that being immersed into Christ brings emancipation
 - (1) release from sin's bondage is another part of sanctification
 - (2) the dying of the old man or nature
 - (3) the growth and maturing of the new nature
 - (4) this, too, is a life-time experience – the growth in grace
 - (D) let us proceed to look at these

B. Immersed into Christ unto Conversion, by the New Birth

6:6-11

1. "Out of Egypt" (vv 5-7)

- a. "5 For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; 7 for he who has died is freed from sin." (Romans 6:5-7)

- b. Paul has been employing the picture of baptism to illustrate salvation in these verses
 - (A) the emerging from the water, which portrays Christ's resurrection
 - (B) has its counterpart in our salvation, as the new, eternal, spiritual life we receive by the regeneration of the Holy Spirit – born anew
 - (C) "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me." (Galatians 2:20)
- c. the first point is in verses 6 and 7, is the repeated idea:
 - (A) we have died, and we have been raised to new life
 - (B) ... so that we are 'no longer slaves to sin'
 - (C) ... so that we are 'freed from sin'
 - (D) dead men don't sin: death to sin cannot entail life in sins

2. From Death unto Life (vv 8-11)

- a. which is immediately followed by these words, verse 8
 - (A) "Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him"
 - (B) these words take us from the past – 'we have died' – into the future – 'we shall also live with Him'
 - (C) yes, the new life in Christ started at some point in the past, exists today, but the point is that all our future life is in union with Him
 - (D) such a life is totally incompatible with continuing in sin
- b. then comes the application of the truth of Christ's resurrection from the dead to our own life, verses 9-10
 - (A) "9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. 10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God."
 - (B) Christ's death was associated with sin – our sin
 - (C) but that death is never to be repeated – sin was fully, and once for all and for ever dealt with – He is fully victorious
 - (D) and, immersed into Christ by faith, we share in that victory
- c. so we also are told, in verse 11, "Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus."
 - (A) the word, 'consider' is also translated 'reckon' – check out the accounts: God has already reckoned, accounted us as being dead to sin and alive in Christ Jesus; as God's children, let us do so, too
 - (B) for this is conversion, the 180° turn

- (C) there is no more complete turnabout than from death to life
- (D) that is what happens to the Christian in salvation
- (E) conversion is God's work by the Spirit in our union with Christ
- (F) Colossians 2:13 – 'And when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions'
- (G) so it is small wonder that the next chapter proceeds, "Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God." (Colossians 3:1)
- (H) we are now freed to "walk in newness of life" (verse 4), for we have been

C. Immersed into Christ unto Emancipation, by Grace

6:12-14

1. Our New Ruler (vv 12, 14)

- a. "12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, ... 14 "For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace." (Romans 6:12, 14)
- b. years ago in Sunday School we sang these words
 - Romans ten and nine,
 - Is a favourite verse of mine
 - Confessing Christ as Lord,
 - I am saved by Grace Divine.
 - These little words of promise,
 - In golden letters shine.
 - Romans ten and nine.
- c. or, "9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation." (Romans 10:9-10)
- d. our new Ruler is the Lord Jesus Christ – we have previously pointed out that when one accepts Christ and His finished work by faith, he or she immediately becomes part of the church of Christ
 - (A) as an affirmation of that faith, a testimony to their salvation
 - (B) many are brought into the fellowship of the local church by the confession of being immersed in water in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
 - (C) this is a public statement of loyalty to our new King, Jesus Christ
- e. but the proof of our loyalty, is deposing our old ruler, sin
 - (A) Therefore do not let sin reign — verse 12

- (B) For sin shall not be master over you — verse 14
- (C) changing our loyalty means changing citizenship: “For He rescued us from the domain (dominion) of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son” (Colossians 1:13)
- f. and that change in citizenship and in ruler
 - (A) has freed us sin: its guilt, its power, and its conquering presence in our lives
 - (B) and has fulfilled the promise of Jesus Christ, “So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.” (John 8:36)

2. Our New Army (v 13)

- a. “and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.” (Romans 6:13)
- b. the word ‘instruments’ particularly means “tools of war; weapons”
- c. before conversion, our 180° turn, our bodies – our hands, feet, heads, desires, ideas, intentions – were all being used by Satan, the usurper, to fight his battles
- d. but now
 - (A) with our sin forgiven, our sin removed, our sin cast away
 - (B) those same bodies are to be engaged – our hands, feet, heads, desires, ideas, intentions – in the fight and endeavour for righteousness

D. Conclusion

1. Freed from Sin

- a. by no means are these verses saying we are to be sinlessly perfect
- b. no; the question is, “which dominates your life: God or sin?”
- c. if you are outside the body of Christ this morning, never having been united with Him in His death, burial and resurrection through faith
- d. then you can start on the right road by trusting in Jesus for salvation

2. Keeping Free

- a. for those who have already taken that first step
- b. there is this word of encouragement
- c. Romans 6:12; (NRSV): Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their

passions.

- d. that daily you make sure that Christ is on the throne of your lives
- e. that sin – active, ongoing, deliberate sin– does not separate you from your fellowship with God
- f. but rather that you “keep short accounts with God”, as someone has expressed it, through daily confession and cleansing at God’s throne

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NIV New International Version © 1984 by the International Bible Society
NKJV New King James Version © 1979 Thomas Nelson Inc., Publishers

Some of the commentaries and resources used in the preparation of this message are identified as follow:

Barnes - *Notes on the New Testament, et alia*, by Rev Albert Barnes, Gall & Inglis, Edinburgh
BM - *Biblical Museum*, Editor James Comper Gray, ca 1870
EBC - *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, © 1986 Zondervan, Grand Rapids, 49530, Michigan
EGT - *The Expositor's Greek Testament*, Hodder & Stoughton
Geneva - Geneva Series of Commentaries - *Romans* - Robert Haldane
Gill - *Exposition of the Old Testament, Exposition of the New Testament*, by John Gill, D.D.
Kerux - The sermon & illustration data base compiled by Rev. David Holwick at the web-site, www.holwick.com.
NICNT - *The New International Commentary on the New Testament*
RWP - *Robertson's Word Pictures of the New Testament*, by Dr. A. T. Robertson
TYN - *The Tyndale New Testament Commentaries*