



Salvation And Sin (Part 2)

Romans 6:15-23

#9 in a series on Romans

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January 3, 2010

Theme: **Grace Alone Leads To Holiness And Eternal Life.**

Isn't Grace Without Law Disastrous?

1. Question: "Can't we keep on sinning because we are under grace?" (15)
2. The Answer: "No! May it never be!" (15; cf. 6:11-13)

Setting Things Straight.

1. Every person serves someone or something. (16-18, 20, 22; cf. Genesis 1:28; 2:15)
2. Freedom in Christ is freedom from sin to obeying God. (16-23; cf. John 8:34-36; Galatians 5:17-18)
3. The dramatic contrast of the results of your choice. (16, 19-23; cf. Matthew 6:24; Romans 4:5; 5:1-2; 10:9-10; Ephesians 2:8-10)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. Remember that in chapter 6 Paul begins to develop some implications from the truth of justification by faith he had detailed. In the first part of the chapter he reminds us that salvation breaks sin's reign over us. We have died to the power of sin to reign over us.

In verse 15 Paul picks up an always present view or question about sin—since we are now living under grace and not under the Law, is the sin we commit really all that big a deal? Or, do we need the Law to *fence us in* to holy living? As you reflect on Paul's clear answer that grace does not excuse sin and we do not need the Law, look carefully at your attitude toward sin. Are you concerned about any and all sinful thoughts and actions? If not, why not?

Tuesday. Grace alone frees and leads us to holiness and eternal life. In verse 17 Paul reminds the believers in Rome that they “became obedient from the heart” to God's truth when they believed. Having believed, having been justified, we are to continue to be obedient from the core of our being to God's truth in the Bible. What is the difference between obeying God's truth and legalism? Are there any truths of God you know which you are not obeying from your heart? If so, what are you going to do about that? As a reminder, write your own paraphrase of 1 Thessalonians 5:19, “Do not quench the Spirit.”

Wednesday. One question frequently asked from this section is “Whose slave are you?” Have you come to terms with the truth that God created you to know and *serve* Him, and that you will always serve someone or something? Do you understand, as Paul tells us, that you have only two choices: to serve God or serve sin (verse 16). Read verses 15-23 noting the drastically different results of the two choices. Whose slave have you been today?

Thursday. Read verses 21-23. Why *didn't* Paul keep his structure balanced by writing “the wages of sin is death, but the wages of righteousness is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord”? What evidence of sanctification, of being like Christ, can you see in your life? Look at Galatians 5:22-23 for some things every believer ought to see present and growing in his or her life.

Friday–Saturday. On Sunday we plan to continue in this section on sanctification, looking at chapter 7. Read and think through the chapter in preparation for our time together.

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