

# Romans 6: Battle Sin And Win!

## Romans 6:14-18

### **Romans 6:14**

*(KJV) For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.*

*(NIV) For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.*

This is the same note that Paul has been playing on the spiritual piano—that we are dead to sin, and alive to God through Jesus Christ! It is not enough to simply know this truth—although that is the first step—but we must also reckon this truth to be true and settle it in our hearts as a solid reality. Then we can yield to this truth, and yield ourselves to God as instruments of righteousness (Romans 6:13).

Sin is no longer our master. We now have another option—obedience to Christ! Hallelujah! There are two mindsets we can take on during our earthly sojourn:

### **Romans 8:6**

*For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

Brethren, choose life and peace!

### **Romans 6:23**

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

Here again is stark contrast between living a life of sin and experiencing death in hell, or accepting the gift of salvation through Jesus and experiencing life eternal in heaven. Big difference!

\*QUESTION FOR MEDITATION: Take some time this week to think about the uncrossable chasm between eternal life and eternal death. How might this unchanging reality change how you relate to and follow Jesus. Do you feel an urgency to share the Gospel with those in your sphere of influence?

\*STUDY POINT: What three passages in the New Testament most stand out to you, as they relate to the subject of hell. Study them out, pray over them, and let the Word of God have its due effect in your mind and heart.

The word grace is used in Romans 6:14 as it should be—our safety net when we fall or fail in our pursuit of righteousness. God's grace is there to pick us up when we fall. It is not to be abused, or used as an excuse to sin more, as some in Paul's Roman audience wrongly concluded.

### **Romans 6:15**

*(KJV) What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.*

*(NIV) What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means!*

Previously, we had talked about Paul's abhorrence for Christians continuing in sin—keeping on this lifestyle of sin—after having acknowledged they were dead to sin. Now, he is addressing those who may argue that it's fine to occasionally dabble in sin. To which he fires back, "God

forbid.” It is not okay to have even a hint of sin in our lives once we know, reckon, and yield to the solid truth that we are dead to it:

### **Ephesians 5:3-4**

*But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.*

The problem with sinning at all is the hardening of our hearts that takes place over time as we indulge the flesh over and over. We become deceived by our own sin:

### **Hebrews 3:12-13**

*Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*

### **Romans 6:16**

*(KJV) 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?*

*(NIV) Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?*

Whoever or whatever you obey, that person or thing is your master. Paul makes it crystal clear here by using the analogy of slaves and masters. Also from this verse we glean that obeying sin as our master leads to death eternal, and obeying God and His Word leads to life eternal. When we sin—whether continuously or occasionally—we declare to ourselves and God that sin is our master!

### **Romans 6:17**

*(KJV) 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.*

*(NIV) But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance.*

Paul makes it clear here and thanks God that some in his Roman audience were truly followers of Jesus, obeying him and thereby declaring that He was their master. They served Jesus, not out of slavish adherence to the law, but “from the heart.” Oh, dear child of God, let the same be said of each one of us.

### **Romans 6:18**

*(KJV) Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.*

*(NIV) You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.*

This is great news, beloved! Once we have known, reckoned, and yielded to the rock-solid truth that we are dead to sin and alive to God, we become servants of righteousness, serving only our Master Jesus as God intended.

~ Reverend Darren McClelland