



Dead To Sin And Alive Unto God

“Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:11).

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“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 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. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin. 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: 9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. 11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 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” (Romans 6:1-13).

Introduction

The Apostle Paul opens Romans chapter 6 with a confronting question—“*What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*” (Romans 6:1). His answer is immediate and emphatic: “*God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*” (v.2)

This passage addresses a timeless struggle: how believers are to live in a world saturated with temptation, compromise, and moral confusion. Paul teaches that salvation is not merely forgiveness of past sins — it is transformation into a new way of life.

God’s message here is profoundly relevant for contemporary society: **grace does not excuse sin; grace empowers holiness.** Let us consider three key truths from this text:

1. Salvation Means a New Identity, Not Just a Clean Record
2. Grace Does Not Licence Sin — It Breaks Sin’s Power
3. Daily Surrender Is Required, So Present Yourselves unto God

1. Salvation Means a New Identity, Not Just a Clean Record

Paul writes: “*Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?*” (Romans 6:3).

To be “baptized into Christ” is to be spiritually united with Him — in His death, burial, and resurrection—“*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*” (v.4)

God’s message is that Christianity is not behaviour modification; it is identity transformation. We are not merely forgiven sinners — we are new creations.



“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Just as Christ truly died and truly rose again, believers are called to leave behind the old life and embrace a new one.

Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1–9) did not simply say sorry after meeting Jesus — he restored what he had stolen and changed his lifestyle. Jesus declared: *“This day is salvation come to this house.”* Transformation confirmed salvation. A similar thing happened to me when I was born again, even-though at the time, I had not yet heard any teaching on restitution.

In the secular, consider someone freed from addiction. They may be legally cleared, but unless their habits, environment, and identity change, they remain vulnerable. **Recovery requires a new way of living.** Likewise, salvation is not merely a pardon; it is a **new walk**. Paul says **we must “walk in newness of life” — not occasionally, but continually.**

2. Grace Does Not Licence Sin — It Breaks Sin’s Power

Paul anticipates a dangerous misunderstanding as some could misinterpret his teaching on grace to mean that grace gives permission to keep sinning. He responds: *“God forbid.”* (Romans 6:2), and goes further to explain: *“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin”* (v.6).

Grace does not coexist with slavery to sin. The cross did not merely forgive sin — it **broke its dominion**. *“For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace”* (Romans 6:14).

God’s message for all today is that You are no longer obligated to obey sin. Temptation still exists, but authority has changed.

Jesus said: *“Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed”* (John 8:34–36).

Israel’s exodus mirrors this truth. Though physically free from Egypt, many still carried Egypt in their hearts (Numbers 14:1–4). Freedom had been granted, but they struggled to live in it. Similarly, many believers are spiritually delivered yet mentally imprisoned.

In modern terms, this is like someone released from prison who continues living as though still incarcerated — asking permission, fearing authority, limiting themselves unnecessarily. Paul reminds us: *“He that is dead is freed from sin”* (Romans 6:7). We must learn to live as free people. Remember the story of the elephant whose chains were replaced by a tiny thread that it could easily break, but it still walk around the same locus as it did when the heavy restrictive chain was on.

3. Daily Surrender Is Required, So Present Yourselves unto God

Paul now turns from theology to practice: *“Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord”* (Romans 6:11).

The word *reckon* means to consciously consider and accept this truth.

Then comes a command: *“Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness un-*



to sin: but yield yourselves unto God” (v.13).

God’s message for us is that Victory is not automatic; it is intentional.

Every day we choose whom we serve. *“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”* (Romans 12:1). Our eyes, hands, minds, phones, finances, and relationships must be surrendered to God.

Daniel resolved in his heart not to defile himself (Daniel 1:8). Joseph fled temptation (Genesis 39:12). They did not rely on feelings — they made deliberate choices.

In a digital age where pornography, greed, and distraction are one click away, holiness requires boundaries. Just as we install antivirus software to protect our computers, believers must guard their hearts: *“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life”* (Proverbs 4:23).

Conclusion

Romans 6 teaches us that:

- 1.You have a new identity in Christ.
- 2.Sin no longer has rightful authority over you.
- 3.You must daily present yourself to God.

Paul concludes: *“For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God”* (Romans 6:10). And so must we. Christian living is not striving to become something new — it is **living out what Christ has already made us.**

Let us therefore:

- Walk in newness of life.
- Refuse sin’s false mastery.
- Yield ourselves wholly to God.

As Joshua declared: *“And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord”* (Joshua 24:15). May we do the same — in our homes, workplaces, churches, and communities — living as those who are truly **dead to sin and alive unto God.**

Amen.