

EPISTLE TO THE ROMAINS 6:1-23

<http://romans.forum>

Two logical deductions from Romans 5:18-21.

- (1) To sin increases grace (1).
- (2) We are free to sin (15).

I. May we sin to increase forgiving grace? (1)

- A. Yes, because where sin increased, grace abounded all the more (1).
- B. No, because we separated (died) from sin (2).
 1. Baptized into Jesus' death (3).
 2. Baptized into Jesus' resurrection (4).
 - a. God's glory raised Jesus (4).
 - b. So we may have new life (4).
- C. United with Christ in death and resurrection (5).
 1. We were crucified to be freed from sin (6-7).
 2. Died with Christ we live with him (8)
 - a. Death has no dominion over him (9).
 - b. He separated from sin (10).
 - c. He lives with God (10).
 3. Consider ourselves dead and alive with God (11).
- D. So, do not obey sin's desires (12).
 1. Stop obeying human desires (13).
 2. Present ourselves to God for good (14).
 3. Sin will not dominate you (14).
 - a. Not under law (sin's power).
 - b. Are under grace (God's power).

II. May we sin freely? (15)

- A. Yes, because we are under grace, not law (15).
- B. No, because we become slaves to a new master (16).
 1. Formerly to sin, leading to death (16).
 2. Now to obedience, leading to life (17).
- C. You became obedient to God (17).
 1. You were slaves to sin (17).
 2. But you obeyed Jesus' teaching (17).
 - a. God freed you from sin (18).
 - b. God enslaved you to good (18).
- D. So, present yourselves as slaves for good (19).
 1. (Speaking in human terms, 19).
 2. Not to impurity and lawlessness (19).
- E. We used to sin freely (20).
 1. We are now ashamed (21).
 2. Sin led to death (21).
- F. But now you are God's slaves (22).
 1. Freed from (slavery to) sin (22)
 2. Fruit leading to holiness and to everlasting life (22).
 - a. Sin's wages are death (23).
 - b. God's gift is everlasting life with Christ (24).

Type real-time queries & comments in your phone or laptop during and after this session.



<http://chat.currah.us>

Challenges in pastoral care

- Wolves who seek to steal sheep.
- Unregenerate church members.
- Members who have deviant theologies.
- Gossips who spread libel and slander.
- Weak marriages and rebellious youth.
- Christians who justify their sins by citing bible verses.

Logical deductions from 5:18-21

- 1 To keep sinning increases grace (6:1)
"Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more" (5:20).
- 2 Believers are free to keep sinning (6:15)
"One man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all" (5:18).

I. Does sinning increase grace? (6:1)

- 1 What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase?
- 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it?
 - Continue: Greek present tense.
 - Sin: Disobedient behavior.
 - Grace: Free forgiveness.
 - Die to sin: Radical separation.
- 3 Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?
- 4 Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.
 - Baptism: Confers new life!
 - Symbol: Reality.



One of the earliest depictions of baptism, Catacombs of San Callisto, third century

Theories of baptism

What does baptism accomplish?

- Regenerates: Confers new life.
- Identifies: New Christians.
- Symbolizes: Jesus death & resurrection.
- Initiates: New church members.
- Forgives: Those who repent.
- Saves: Who pledge loyalty to Christ.

Discuss

How would you baptize where ...

- They bury vertically or sidewise?
- They mummify corpses?
- They cremate corpses by burning?
- They expose corpses to vultures?
- They have no available water?
- They have no government permission?

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin.

- Will be: Temporal or logical future?
- Destroyed: Rendered ineffective.

⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

- Freed: Can do neither good nor bad.
- Believe: To place trust in someone.
- Know: Assumed true to fact.

¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

- He: Jesus is our model.
- Consider: Present tense = continually.
- Dead: Separated from.
- Alive: Joined to.

¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. ¹³ No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, ...

- Reign: Present tense = Stop!
- Obey: Present tense = Cannot stop!
- Present: Aorist tense = How to stop!
- Sin: Human desires & deeds.

... but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

- Present: Aorist tense = as needed.
- Law: Controlled by sin.

II. May Christians keep on sinning? (6:15)

¹⁵ What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!

¹⁶ Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted ¹⁸ and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness.

- Obedient: Authentic faith obeys.
- Slaves: We have changed masters.

¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

- Members: Spirit, mind and body.
- Sanctification: Dedicated to God.

²⁰ When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death.

- Free: No relationship.
- Ashamed: Sense of loss, worthlessness
- Death: Everlasting separation.

²² But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Enslaved: Slaves honor = his master's.
- Gift: *Charisma* ← *charis*, grace.
- Eternal: The coming messianic age.