

Romans 6:1 – 7:6

Introduction.

A. Review.

1. All under sin.
2. Salvation by faith.
 - a. Example of Abraham.
 - b. Apart from works.

B. Two improper reactions.

1. Rejection leading to legalism (Galatians).
2. Acceptance leading to antinomianism (Corinthians).

C. In this section, Paul explains the Christian's relationship to sin.

1. Series of divisions in 1-11.
 - a. "Not know" vss. 2-4.
 - b. "Know" vss. 5-7.
 - c. "Believe" vss. 8-10.
 - d. Recurring terms of knowledge: vss. 3, 6, 8.
 - e. Recurring terms of the Christian's relationship to sin: vss. 1, 2, 6, 7, 10, 11.
2. Series of aorist verbs: one and done.

I. The proposition: continuing to sin increases God's grace (1).

II. The believer is not subject to sin (2-7).

A. Dead to sin (aorist verb).

1. By uniting with Christ in his death (baptized - aorist).
2. The dead do not live (present tense).
3. Purpose: to live a new life.
 - a. To God's glory.
 - b. Through rising with Christ.

B. The old self has been crucified.

1. We do not have two natures.
 - a. The old nature is dead.
 - b. When we sin, it is due to the flesh.
2. For two purposes.
 - a. To vitiate the power of sin in our bodies.
 - b. To free us from slavery to sin.
3. Death brings freedom from whatever binds us.

C. For the Christian.

1. We don't have to sin; we choose to sin.
2. The one whose life is characterized by sin probably isn't a Christian.

III. The believer is united with Christ in his life (8-10).

A. Christ cannot die again.

1. United with Christ, salvation is sure.
2. Christ has broken the power of death.

B. In his death, Christ died to sin.

1. Bearing our sin, he was subject to death.
2. A once-for-all single act.

C. Christ has a continuous living relationship with God.

IV. Our responsibilities (11-13).

A. Act according to who we are.

1. Dead to sin.
2. Alive to God.

B. Cancel the rule of sin in our bodies.

1. The reign of sin is broken.
2. Now we must behave in accordance with who we are.

C. Choose.

1. Offer our bodies to wickedness.
2. Offer our bodies to God.

V. Summary (14).

A. Sin is no longer our master.

B. We are not under law.

1. Which imposes requirements.
2. Which manifests guilt.

C. We are under grace.

VI. Illustrations 15-23; 1-6).

A. Slavery.

1. To sin.
2. To righteousness.
3. Wages of sin.
4. Gift of God.

B. Marriage.

1. Bound by law while spouse is alive.
2. Freed from law when spouse dies.
3. Subject to law when bound by sin.
4. Subject to God when freed from sin.

VII. Conclusion.

- A. The grace of God does not free us to commit sins.
- B. We need to behave according to who we are.