



Lesson 7

Freed from Sin's Enslaving Power *Romans 6*

But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become *obedient from the heart* to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

Summary

These truths are absolutely essential for people who have a right standing with God – to please and glorify God in every aspect of life – that is, they are growing in grace. The gospel with its saving and sanctifying power causes us by faith to have hope while living in a fallen world. It tells us how, though we are in the presence of sin, we are not subject to its power.

Here are the questions that plague us and are answered here:

CAN I continue to sin since we are under grace?

MUST I continue to sin since we are under grace?

Here is the i n c o n g r u i t y, but not the i m p o s s i b i l i t y of ongoing sin.

Issue 1 – Do we continue i n sin?

Key motif - d e a t h a n d l i f e

I n d i c a t i v e s - What is true of us (v.1-11)

Its I n i t i a t i o n - How it Begins (v.1-3)

Its I n s t r u c t i o n - What it Means (v.4-9)

You were born *in Adam*. You were in the realm or sphere of sin and darkness, occasionally called the flesh. In that realm you had what is called the old self, the person you were as spiritually dead and training yourself in habits of sin. Then, when you were converted/saved, God placed you *in*

Christ. You were transferred into the Christ's kingdom and spiritually united to His body through the Spirit. These are the invisible (and admittedly, difficult) spiritual reality. When you were placed into Christ and united to Him, you were joined to His death and resurrection.

You have physical life here on earth experienced in your body and through your five senses.

You have spiritual life in the heavenlies and that spiritual life is hidden in Christ and will be unveiled when He comes.

You have been separated through the cross from the old person that you were, the old self.

You have a physical body that is living in the presence of sin.

The point and purpose is that we may w a l k in newness of life and not be e n s l a v e d to sin.

Its I m p l e m e n t a t i o n – How it Acts (v.10-11)

These verses then call for us to c o n s i d e r carefully these truths about Christ (v.10) and then c o u n t them to be true for us (v.11).

You have to know that you have been placed into Christ.

You have to know what Christ's death and resurrection mean.

You have to know how being placed into Christ and thus His death and resurrection applies to you.

I m p e r a t i v e s - What is required of us (v.12-14)

Don't Allow Sin to R e i g n (v.12)

Do not allow sin to rule you through l u s t s .

Don't Make Yourself A v a i l a b l e to Sin (v.13-14)

Don't l e t sin master you because sin w i l l n o t master you.

Don't Because You are Under G r a c e , not L a w (v.14)



Issue 2 – Must we continue t o sin?

Key motif - m a s t e r a n d s l a v e

P r o b l e m – free from law means free to sin? (v.15)

Those under law are under the dominion of sin.

Those under grace are not under the dominion of sin.

P r e s e n t a t i o n - who we yield to rules us (v.16-19)

P r o d u c t - what it creates in our lives (v.20-23)

Lessons for Living

We have true u n i o n with Christ by being placed in Christ.

We may not live as though sin d o e s n o t m a t t e r.

We may not live as though sin has c o n t r o l.

We have been d e l i v e r e d from the old life and are e m p o w e r e d for the new life (v.4-11).

We have been delivered from the c o n d e m n a t i o n of the law to the freedom and power of g r a c e (v.14ff).

We must not l e t sin master us because sin i s n o t g o i n g to master us (v.13-14).

We must o b e y from the h e a r t, having been freed from sin and become God's slaves (v.17-18).

We must p r e s e n t ourselves to God for His use, rather than presenting ourselves to sin for its use.

We must understand that we may not live as though sin were not d e a d l y and transformation were not d e m a n d e d.



Points to Ponder – Applications, time permitting.

How We Confront Ourselves and Others

Examine thoughts and wants behind choices and emotions.

Teach or remind the truths that we must know and believe.

Apply and personalize truth through dialog – questions and answers.

Surrender and yield in practical ways so as to over come sin.