

# Romans: Dead or Alive

(Romans 6)

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## Introduction:

1. Paul has made a significant theological point in Chapters 1-4: Both the Jews and the Gentiles are in need of a savior. Jesus is that Savior.
2. Chapter 5 begins Paul's second argument: Since Jesus is the savior, you need to shape up.

## I. God's Grace Abounds

- A. (Romans 5:20-6:2)
  1. The Hypothetical Question, "Well, if God's grace is good, shouldn't we just give God more opportunities to show his grace?"
  2. Tied To Romans 3:8 — the charge that Paul promoted sin?
- B. God's grace Triumphs over sin.
  1. (James 2:12-13)
- C. Should we just provide more opportunities for grace to triumph over sin?
  1. Of Course Not! The Christian cannot continue in sin!
    - a) (Hebrews 10:26) — sinning deliberately
    - b) (James 5:19-20) — The soul that wonders is dead.
    - c) (2 Peter 2:18-22) — To return to sin is worse than to have not known grace!

## II. You Have Died To Sin, so Live For Christ

- A. (Romans 6:3-14)
- B. Argument From Baptism:
  1. Baptism is likened to the Death, Burial, and resurrection of Jesus.
    - a) Jesus took on Flesh — (John 1:14)
    - b) Died to sin — (Romans 6:10)
    - c) Resurrected Anew — (1 Corinthians 15:42-44)
  2. The Function of Baptism:
    - a) Baptism places one in Christ — (Galatians 3:27)
      - (1) In Christ Spiritual Blessings and salvation are found — (Ephesians 1:3)
    - b) Baptism is the point at which one dies to sin
      - (1) Not belief. Many who believe are not saved.
        - (a) (John 12:42-43) — non-confessing believers
        - (b) (John 8:31, 44) — Believing, but father the devil.
    - c) Baptism is the point at which a new life begins:
      - (1) (John 3:5-7) — Born again/above
- C. Life in Christ
  1. We have assurance of a new life.
    - a) Spiritual — both on earth and in heaven.
    - b) We are now within the domain of Christ, a domain of Grace.
  2. In Christ, we have escaped the dominion of Death — The result of Sin beginning with Adam.

### III. Slaves of Righteousness

- A. (Romans 6:15-23)
- B. The question is: To whom will you belong?
  - 1. There are only two options: Either Sin or Righteousness.
  - 2. Your Actions decide:
    - a) (Matthew 7:15-20)
    - b) Will You sin?
      - (1) Actions that separate you from God.
    - c) Will you be obedient?
      - (1) Works not of merit but of obedience.
- C. Thank God You have chosen to be righteous!
  - 1. You were once slaves to sin, but you have devoted yourselves to God.
    - a) We should be careful not to forget that these are Christians. Struggling Christians, but still Christians.
- D. Slaves of Righteousness:
  - 1. There is a degree of freedom in sin.
    - a) You live according to your own whims.
    - b) There still remains a judgment for you.
  - 2. The much better path is to be righteous.
    - a) It is difficult.
    - b) It requires work.
    - c) It results in life.

#### Conclusion:

- 1. Point One