

# **Romans 6**

## **“Power Over Sin”**

**5/30/12**

### **Introduction**

- The Content of Romans is not hard to understand
  - As long as you remember it is helpful to compare the content of Romans to a great theological city

### **The Book of Romans – The Great Theological City**

#### **#1 – The Courthouse – Romans 1-5**

- Paul introduces the concept of righteousness by faith, but in order to show us our great need of salvation he spend the first five chapters showing are we are all guilty before God

#### **#2 – The Power Plant – Romans 6-8**

- Chapters 6-8 help us understand that is power to live out this Christian life God is calling us to – Pastor Rob is doing an in-depth series from these three chapters on our weekend services, but we will cover them as well, just at a much more rapid pace

#### **#3 – The Synagogue – Romans 9-11**

- in chapters 9-11 Paul shares with us how Israel fits into God plan now that there is this new thing called the church and answers the questions, has the church replaced Israel, where do they fit into God’s plan and how does God’s sovereignty fit with man’s free will – great stuff in this section

#### **#4 – The Church – Romans 12-16**

- in Paul’s final section of this book we will study how the church is practically suppose to operate in light of the all the amazing truths about God is this book – Paul ends all of his letters very practically Romans is no exception

### **Tonight we move into a new section of the book**

- the power plant – how these things work out
  - this is the section Pastor Rob has been covering in detail on our weekend services
- But as promised we are not going to skip over these chapters, we want to keep a continuity for our Wednesday Services, but we are going to do really a bird’s eye view of these chapters

### **And tonight we come to Romans Chapter 6, where Paul says, “What shall we saw then, shall we continue in sin that grace may abound – certainly not” - What shall we say then...**

- He is drawing our attention to all that has gone before
  - All that we learned in the courthouse
  - That Man is guilty and in need of a savior
- But Praise God he has provided Righteousness for us
  - Apart from our works and obedience

### **Now some would respond to that by saying...**

- Wow – that is great – then it doesn’t matter how I live, I can do anything I want, it doesn’t matter
  - As Paul opens this section he says, “Certainly not, perish the thought – no way
  - And then he goes on to show us how we have power in our walks with the Lord

### **Tonight we look at chapter 6 which will deal with how to have power over sin and in a few weeks, chapter 7, the other side of the fence, legalism**

- my prayer is as we do we will begin to walk in victory, that we would walk in the power God has provided for us

- now in order to show us how to walk in victory, Paul as he did in the courthouse, breaks down the argument in a simple to follow outline – for those of you who like those...

### **Power over Sin – Romans Chapter 6**

#### **#1 - Something to know – Romans 6:1-10**

#### **#2 - Something to apply – Romans 6:11-14**

#### **#3 - Something to consider – Romans 6:15-23**

- and tonight lets consider those one at a time

### **Power over Sin – Romans Chapter 6**

#### **#1 - Something to know – Romans 6:1-10**

- the frequent use of the Word ‘know’ in this section helps us to understand Paul wanted them to get something, to understand something
  - and the reason – Christian living always follows Christian learning
  - What we do, will follow our doctrine, what we believe will influence how we behave

#### **So what does Paul want us to know? – the thinking goes like this...**

- shall we be mastered by sin?????
  - certainly not!!!!

#### **You see one of the problems of really understanding Righteousness from God by faith is it leads some listeners to conclude, well then I can live any way I want**

- I mean aren't I saved by grace not works
  - So why does the lifestyle matter

#### **So when Paul in chapter 5 said, “where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more”**

- He could hear them saying – well then why not sin
  - His response couldn't be any more clear
- **“Certainly Not” – NKJV**
- **“May it never be” – NASB**
- **“Of course not” – TLB**
- **“God forbid” – KJV**
- **“What a ghastly thought” – Phillips**
- **“No, No, No” – NEB**

#### **Could it be any clearer? – It is not Paul's heart at all that we would continue in sin now that we understand grace**

- He goes on to say ...
  - “How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it.”
- He goes on to explain what he means there by saying We identified with His death and Resurrection when we were baptized

### **How does this happen – We identify with His death**

- We are baptized – and in doing so we are identifying with His death, and Resurrection

I remember this young guy in our college group here wanted to get baptized the week after Easter – it was cold and rainy and the pool that a family here in the church was graciously allowing us to use wasn't heated, oh my it was so cold – but he was leaving town the next day so we went for it – Jordan of course had to lead worship so he couldn't get in the pool so me and Mike Cantino got in with this young man and shaking began to explain to him - “as he goes under it is identifying with Christ's death (I'm dead too) and when you come out, it is with His life (you are now living in the Newness of life that He has purchased for you)

- Now we need to understand Christ died to give you that right
  - He endured great pain as they beat Him
  - He endured the death of the cross

## Identify with His life

- Not just to forgive you – though that is part of it
- But also so you could live in newness of life.
  - And it does great wonders for purity to sit and consider all that Christ has done for you, to see what He endured
    - Not so you could live any way you want
  - But so that you could be free
    - Free from not only the penalty of sin
    - But free from its power as well.

## Too many Christians are “betweeners”

- they live between Egypt and Canaan, saved but never satisfied;
  - or they live between Good Friday and Easter,
  - believing in the Cross but not entering into the power and glory of the Resurrection.
- We need to walk in His power!!!

## How we walk in newness of life? - verses 5-6

- we were with Him in His death, and we were with Him in his resurrection

## When our Old man was crucified with Christ, it was “done away with”

- now understand that term does not mean destroyed completely
  - **“done away with” literally means to be rendered inactive, to incapacitate, to take authority away from**

This week in colleges and High schools all over American, young men begin a horrible tradition, they are called Two a Days, the week has other names that describe how fun it is, but it is when football players start practicing twice a day to get back in shape to play. I will never forget my first year, and last year of High school Football. (10 bucks for the hit of day and a pack of M&M's to the hit-e, I received so many packs of M&M's my golf coach pulled me from football) Anyway, Coach Barns, crazy man that he was, he enjoyed yelling at us. And we were afraid, what ever he said, we did, He owned us, we were his servants – he said run, we ran – he said jump we did. He said through your best friend to the ground, sorry man, coach barns, crazy. Now eventually the season ended, I realize though I love football, I better stick with golf – and coach Barns ended his authority over me

- He could show up at my house this afternoon, and begin to yell – Duff – you look horrible, we are going do a PT, Physical Training – Now he may be right, I may want to follow him because he still scares me
  - But the point is – I don't have to anymore
  - Why

## He has been rendered inactive – He no longer has power over me

## And with your flesh – since the death on the cross

- it is the same
  - The flesh may yell
    - You may think “I have to give in”
    - You may even want to give in
- But Paul is giving us something to understand
  - You no longer have to give in to its demands.
  - You flesh has been rendered inactive
    - It doesn't control you any more

## God has not just given us power of the penalty of our sin, but the power to walk in holiness

- the first thing Paul wants you to know is that once you are saved staying the same old person is not what God intended – not that you don't struggle with sin

- but just a willful unrepentant allegiance to the old life is a scandal against the gospel
- there should be a sharp distinction between me and a non believer

### **When the Holy Spirit comes in there has got to be a change**

- I am not preaching a works salvation
  - I am just saying if nothing has changed, something is wrong with you
  - There needs to be some self evaluation

### **Power over Sin – Romans Chapter 6**

#### **#1 - Something to know – Romans 6:1-10**

#### **#2 - Something to apply – Romans 6:11-14**

- Paul says “Reckon”
  - That is not the southern term for “I think that’s right.”
  - It a mathematical term – meaning apply it to you, take it as your own

### **He says, “Likewise, you also..” – Jesus lived and lives toward God, now you are to do it to**

- You can and must live life toward God

### **How - #1. – Understand the truth Paul just gave you**

- He repeats it in verse 11, “reckon, (apply it to) yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God.”
  - And now – verse 12 (apply it to you)...

### **#2. – Don’t lets sin reign (to control or master your life)**

- We are not speaking about sinless perfection
  - But a life toward God, not mastered by your sins
  - By knowing what the truth is, pondering it, considering it, thinking it through, speaking it aloud if need be

### **And then apply it by – 2 things Paul says – verse 13**

#### **“Do not present your body as an instrument of unrighteousness”**

- Do not put yourself in the place of sin
  - What is your deal? What is your struggle
  - We all have sin, but I believe also we have the one thing
  - What is your deal
- If your deal is lust – you need to decide you are going to have those filter on your computers, and phones and ipads
- If your deal is gossip you need to not stay when those conversations turn that direction
  - But Don’t put yourself into temptation
  - Make no provision for the flesh – We will look at this in chapter 13 in detail, but Paul says Make no provision
- Maybe use the illustration of Abraham – Ishmael was a work of the flesh and when it was time to send him away Abraham gives him bread and water – nothing from a rich dad – picture of what we are to do

### **Normally we make litter allowances**

- we think only on special occasions I will allow this work of the flesh
  - friends make no provision for the flesh

### **That is Paul’s first application, but don’t miss the second..**

#### **“But present yourself to God as an instrument of righteousness”**

- there is a negative and a positive
  - and so often we fail because we do the first without the second.
- We avoid temptation once and then kind of go into a holding pattern – the entire time our mind is whirling, working, - that old man wanting to be alive

**So then after not doing the negative – we need to do the positive. – present yourself to the Lord**

- God here I am – pray to Him, offer yourself to Him as His, worship Him (that is a good one)
  - Then you will find Paul’s truth that he wanted you to understand is true
  - Sin has no power over you, as you yield yourself to God instead of to sin
- What a wonderful truth it is

**As verse 14 says, You have the grace not to sin**

- it is not just grace that forgives when you sin
  - Its grace that keeps – give you ability not to do it at all!

**When you are tempted to sin, Say, out loud, Flesh you do not have power over me any more. I am God’s servant; I desire to do what He wants me to do. He did so I could be free from this..**

Paul’s first instruction (“know”) centered in the mind, and this second instruction (“apply”) focuses on the heart. His third instruction touches the will.

**Power over Sin – Romans Chapter 6**

**#1 - Something to know – Romans 6:1-10**

**#2 - Something to apply – Romans 6:11-14**

**#3 - Something to consider – Romans 6:15-23**

- Well, Paul spends the rest of chapter 6 explaining why – Because the reality is, sometimes we just don’t want to be free

**Paul’s gives two reasons to obey**

**#1 - Your Freedom – Romans 6:16-19**

- when you obey you have a freedom to serve the Lord
  - that not a luxury that you have when in sin
  - sin will make you its slave

**That picture that Paul is using of Slavery would have been very familiar one**

- estimated 1/3 of the Roman population were slaves
- ½ had been at one time, they knew what it meant
  - to be totally enslaved to another person

**So Paul points out a familiar truth, “do you not know”**

- Whoever you present yourself to obey, you will become totally controlled by that
  - And **“present” is a word that has within it the understanding of a willingness**
  - When you willingly present yourself to something to be its slave – you will be controlled by it completely
- The only question is who are you yielding yourself to
  - To God or the god of this world

**You need to understand - No one is truly free**

**You might say** – “That’s not true, I’m an American. I’m free to do whatever I want, whenever I want it.”

- You might say that – But it’s not true!!!
  - You obey something, live for something, are controlled by something

**The drug addict may feel like does what he wants, lives for himself – but it is the drugs that actually run his life – Sin will control you**

- It is sad how they will reject the Lord because they don’t want anyone telling them what to do. But their bodies make demands that lead them to steal, to sin, to ruin their families

I knew a man very well who married into a family with a great deal of money. The business his father in law owned was very lucrative, and to make things even better for him the father in law

was going to give him the business and retire. The only problem is this man was addicted to cocaine. The Father in law had his suspicion and so was only paying all his bills and giving his daughter spending money so the young man would not buy drugs. He would turn over this multimillion-dollar business as soon as he received treatment. Well the man would not wait, but went to the competitors and sold company trade secrets, in essence selling out himself, ruining money for a lifetime for a couple scores of drugs.

### **And I often wondered why he would do such a thing**

**But that is sin** – it enslaves you and you do what it wants not what you want to do.

- The example of that man is extreme, but we do the same thing as we yield to sin
  - Giving up intimacy with God and effectiveness for Gods – things worth far more than any pay check
    - And why do we give these things up???
    - For a moment of two of sin
- well number one – your freedom – who do you want to give your allegiance to
  - and number two...

### **Paul's gives two reasons to obey**

**#1 - Your Freedom – Romans 6:16-19**

**#2 - The Fruit – Romans 6:20-23**

### **We need to take a hard look at what sin produces**

- Paul reminds us that sin produces death – even when we yield to it temporary – it produces death
  - Not always physical (**it can**) but always death
- Death to your walk, death to your joy, death to your witness

**You have a choice** – that choice will have consequences

- choose to yield yourself to self to sin – the fruit will be death

### **You can choose to yield yourself to sin or to God**

- there is fruit of obedience
  - in verse 16 – Paul says it is righteousness
    - that word means rightness
- as wrong as sin feels is as right as obedience does
  - when I am yielded to sin – It is a burden
  - when I am yielded to the Lord – its right
- like when we were talking about taking the Yoke of our Lord upon us – Jesus says it fits well – that is what life is about!

### **And the wonderful thing is, the more you yield to it, the more of the fruit will be produces**

- the more you yield to lawlessness, verse 19, the more lawlessness you will have
  - But (this is great) – the more you yield to the Lord the more like him you will become
- Verse 22, when we are slaves of God – the fruit is holiness, - but the context of that word, with the “to” in front of it – shows that it is something God is setting you apart to
  - There will be more and more of it, produced in your life the more you yield

**You may say-** “I don’t feel very holy, I don’t really have a desire to obey” – yield to God and God will put it in you

- remember the man with the withered hand that Jesus healed. – Jesus said to that man – reach out your hand. Now that man could have said, but I can’t, I just can’t do it. And if he had done that he may have never been healed. But he reached out his hand by faith, and God made it whole

- We must yield, by faith, and God will build into you more and more holiness, He will make you more and more like Him

Story about the Python (Tyler Texas)– the man had it before marriage – you need to get rid of that. Then he got married, - you need to get rid of that. Then they had kids, now. But one night he left the lid off, and when he got up the python was missing, his child was missing. He found the python with a large lump in him. He knew, and went insane.

- Sad story – but it is a picture of sin
  - It will consume you and your family
  - And drive you crazy

### **God has given you the power**

- on the cross your flesh was crucified
  - it no longer has power over you if you don't yield to it
  - God has given you the power

### **God has given you the principal – “yield”**

- Lord here I am, totally yours
  - I want to know you, and dwell with you
  - I want to be lead by you
- He has given you the principal

### **God has given you the reason**

- should you yield to sin, you will be its slave
  - and it is a hard taskmaster
    - the fruit of it will be death

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### **Should you yield to the Lord?**

- the Lord's servant you shall be
  - growing more and more like Him everyday, every moment
  - experiencing and living out the Life of surrender, that life of “rightness” the life that “fits well”
- may you find yourself this week, choosing to yield to Him
  - you will be so blessed!

### **But it starts with a decision**

- like you were a slave to sin, you need to decide to be a slave to God
  - Damian Kyle was sharing this in a message I heard recently

**That just like you were a slave to sin – you look around people in the church and think, man if I did what they did I would be right back deep in it – hey don't condemn those, but know for you – if you try to do that you will never make it**

- it is so important to settle the issue of Lordship of Jesus Christ in your life
  - Jesus was up front and honest with you – if you desire to come after me, do what – take up your cross – He didn't trick you into it after you were saved
  - This lukewarm, develop your own Christianity doesn't work
- I need to be a slave to God, the scripture says
- Paul tells us to reckon it, to consider it, so I encourage you to do just that - take a walk and ask, is this really real or I am just playing a game
  - You see there is a God – and He is worthy for me to be His slave

### **I have been reading the book –“The Crucified life”**

- it seems to be a contradiction, because if I am crucified then I am dead
  - but real life is the life is surrendered to Him, dead to sin, alive to God
  - the one that made you tells you how to live!