

# Transformed, Romans 6-8, Part 1

Romans 6:1-4 “The great exchange”

**This week we are beginning a new set of Studies in the book of Romans.**

A) We are once again combining our **Weekend study** times with **our Wednesday night study time.**

B) All of God’s word is Awesome –effective, powerful life changing – inspiring –

C) There are certain books of the Bible that just Warrant **giving a lot of time too!**

1) The book of Romans is one of those books

D) The Book of Romans has been called the Cathedral of the Christian faith, the Constitution of Christianity

1) and the “Magna Carta of Christian liberty.

**Rich in doctrine and full of amazing powerful truth concerning the Christian life.**

A) One writer put it this way – “The miracle that clearly presented in the book of Romans is greater in power and scope than the creation of planet earth!”

B) It is truly life changing – if a believer can grasp the power and significance of the truth written there in.

C) If the Book of Romans is the Bedrock of the Christian faith –

1) Ch. 6-8 are the capstone! –

**So here is what we are beginning today – On the weekend services – Sat/ Sunday – In depth look of these 3 chapters.**

A) Series was born out of a conversation I had several years back with **Trish Johnson** – Debbie’s Mom

B) Pulled me aside – **Would you pray .....**

1) I started praying that day.

C) More I prayed – **more the burden grew to teach this – passage of Scripture**

1) Timing – the time is now –

D) Really want to take our time – **Dissect** this portion of Scripture.

**I shared with Jason what was on my heart – we began to pray together direction after Revelation**

A) Pray about doing Romans on Wed.

B) So once again – Wed – Chapter by chapter

1) **1/2 chapter per week**

C) **Weekend – Plod – unpack – dissect – linger**

D) **Monumental – significance -**

1) Miss a weekend – or can’t come Wednesdays

E) Watch/listen online – Download itunes – free CD or DVD - OK? - Please – very important

1) Turn to Romans 6 **Read V.1-4 PRAY!!!!!!**

## **A GREAT EXCHANGE!**

A) A prince becomes a pauper and allows a pauper to become a prince – for the pauper – great exchange.

B) Rick Norsigian from Fresno Calif. Paid \$45 dollars at a garage sale- for a box of **glass photograph negatives**

1) They turned out to be the lost works of America's most revered landscape photographer – **Ansel Adams – worth several million dollars**

C) I'd say that was a great exchange.

**Andy Fields– paid \$5.00 for five sketches at a Las Vegas garage sale. – Ended up being the childhood works of Andy Warhol – worth an estimated 2 mill.**

**ONCE AGAIN – I WOULD SAY – GREAT EXCHANGE!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**A guy trades in a piece of paper – with numbers on it He paid a dollar for – Lottery – for millions**

A) Great exchange. – Not an advocate of buying lottery tickets – but for the winner – great exchange

C) Team gives up **a washed up player** for draft pick that turns out to be an All star –

1) **A GREAT EXCHANGE**

**The greatest exchange ever is what Jesus did for us at Calvary and what we get as a result when we believe!**

A) He took **our sin upon Himself** / He paid our debt – took our punishment – endured our shame.

Aa) We believe – the result – we go from Death to life, Hell to Heaven, separation to friendship.

B) We go from being powerless against sin and Satan **to Powerful – walk in victory.**

C) We go from being lost to being found – **Destitute to be destined.**

1) Poor and needy spiritually to Rich beyond belief– Co-heirs with Christ

**D) We go from Wandering thru life searching for meaning to having meaning - purpose and direction.**

1) **THAT, MY FRIENDS IS THE GREAT EXCHANGE**

E) The Awesome transformation that takes place when a person gives his-her life to Christ.

**Here in Romans Ch. 6-8 Paul is expounding upon that blessed transformation -**

**The first 8 chapters of the book of Romans can be divided in this way!**

A) Chapter 1-3:20 is about the Doctrine of sin –

**B) In this section we learn – how utterly sinful man is. How depraved man is -**

1) how guilty he is, how hopeless he is, how sin-bound and hell-bound he is.

C) We quickly learn that every problem that we see in society today – **can be traced back to what Paul describes about man in this first section.**

**But the book doesn't end there! He doesn't leave us in the mire – Ch. 3:21-Ch.5 Doctrine of Salvation**

A) How we are Justified – declared righteous – by grace thru faith alone.

B) Which is why – **Romans has been called the magna Carte of Christian liberty!**

1) Like a skilled masterful Lawyer – Paul builds His case for the believers' position in Christ

C) We go from **being guilty and doomed to forgiven, freed, and Righteous in God's sight.**

D) But Paul also wants us to know that the work of Christ is not only JUDICIAL but it is EFFECTUAL

1) That is the focus of Chapters 6-8 -

**E) In Chapters 6-8 Paul talks in detail about the results of Salvation.**

1) ch 3, 4 and 5 deal with how you get saved and ch 6 - 8 deal with how you live after you've been saved.

2) There is an absolute connection – the two are linked

**So Chapters 1- Ch. 3:20 Sin – Man's depravity**

A) Chapters 3:21-Ch.5 Salvation – Paul lays out how the work of Christ on behalf of man was so complete

B) So merciful, so gracious, so comprehensive, so abundant, so magnanimous – that it can be best summed up in Ch. 5:20-21

**20 Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, 21 so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

C) Where sin abounded – Grace super-abounded!

D) If sin is like Big Bear Mt – 7400 ft in elevation

1) Grace is like **Mt Everest 29,035 ft** in elevation.

E) God's grace dwarfs man's sin!

**That statement in v.20 leads Paul to open this new section with this question. Romans 6:1**

**What shall we say then?/ Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?**

A) I want you to notice two things about this brief question:

B) First, notice that the question is logical. **"Shall we go on sinning in order that grace may increase?"**

1) That is a very good question to ask.

C) In fact it has been said that- **If your teaching or preaching of the gospel does not arouse this question in somebody's mind, there is likely something wrong with your teaching,**

D) In other words if we are really going to explain and describe how the work of Christ and the grace of God **is sufficient to cover all sin – any sin**

1) Past present and future –

E) If sin is so completely taken care of by the forgiveness of Christ, then we don't really need to worry about sins, do we?

1) They are not going to separate us from Christ, so why not keep on doing them? **It is a perfectly logical quest.**

**It is also a natural question:**

A) Our very nature would have us raise this question. It is not only logical, but it is also natural.

B) That is because sin, basically, is fun, isn't it?

Oh, come on -- you can admit it! Sin is fun.

1) How many of you have had fun sinning ?

C) We like to do it. Otherwise we wouldn't keep on doing it, **we would not get involved in it.**

1) We know sins are bad for us. Our mind tells us, our logic tells us, our experience tells us they are bad for us.

D) But, nevertheless, we like to do them. Otherwise we would not.

**Therefore, any kind of a suggestion that tells us we can escape the penalty for our sin and still enjoy the action arouses a considerable degree of interest in us.**

A) If there are no consequences – because God's grace covers them all – why not keep sinning? –  
Logical question – natural question.

B) I like where this guy is going – Hold your horses, partner – NOT FINISHED YET!!!

C) SO it is a logical question and it is a natural question. – **It is also a relevant question.**

**There were those in Paul's day and there are those today saying things like:**

A) If our sin magnifies God's grace – why not keep sinning! Our sin actually brings glory to God.

B) Others who say – **God's grace is so good** – I will sin even though I know it is wrong and I will just ask for forgiveness afterwards!

C) But those type of questions **ignore the true power of Salvation** – that identifies us with Christ in His death as well as in His Resurrection.

D) That is what Paul explains for us in great detail in Chapters 6-7

1) And then in Chapter 8 He explains the affects of that truth for us. -

**One more important point we need to make before we move on here.**

A) Paul is talking about **a lifestyle of sin**, not just a single act or two of failure.

B) He is talking about “Christians” who go on **absolutely unchanged in their lifestyle** from what they were before they were Christians.

C) The word "continue" is interesting in the Greek, *epimeno*. (Epe'maino)

1) It's an intensified word with a prefix preposition. Meaning it is **in the present continuous state**.

D) It means **"to abide, remain or stay."** It's used of staying in a house, making a residence there.

E) The question is, "Shall we go on sinning?"

1) Shall we continue in fornication? Stealing?  
Christian car thief?

**Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?"**

A) **Certainly Not!!!** Or, as it is literally in the Greek, "May it never be!"

B) It is interesting to me to see how the other versions translate this phrase.

1) The King James Version sounds horrified: "God forbid!"

2) Phillips seems to catch this same note of horror: "What a ghastly thought!"

C) The New English Bible puts it very simply, "No, no."

1) So here is a 'no-no' in the Christian experience.

D) But understand – this is not simply a ghastly thought to Paul – from the standpoint of – that would be horrible –

1) Paul's reason is full of inescapable logic!

**Here is the reason why Paul reacts so strong!**

**V.2 How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?**

A) We died to sin – how can we continue to live in Sin!

B) Here is the LOGIC that Paul wants to confront us with an **answer to this question** – Shall we continue in Sin?

C) The answer – **No –NO – why ? We died to sin!**

D) The rest of the chapter is merely an exposition of what Paul means by that!

**This is often Paul's style:**

A) Paul states the truth first, in a kind of nutshell summary, statement of what he wants to say –

B) then he logically takes his argument step by step and explains and expounds UPON it until it is perfectly clear.

**C) That is what he does here. The whole truth that answers the question, "Shall we go on sinning?"**

1) ANS. – NO WAY! –

D) Why? – **You died to sin!** – This is the crux of the matter – Something happened to you when you came to faith in Christ –

1) You DIED TO SIN!

**What does that mean? Begin with what that doesn't mean:**

A) 1<sup>st</sup> it does not mean that sin is dead in me.

B) It doesn't mean **that as a Christian**, I have reached the place where I cannot sin,

1) although many people take it to mean that. Sinless Perfection. {Not what Paul is saying

C) Ch. 7 He talks about his own struggle with Sin!

D) Idea - As long as we are living in these bodies in this world – we will still sin!

1) Jesus said – the Flesh is weak -

E) This passage doesn't mean that sin is dead in us;

**2<sup>nd</sup> it does not mean, as some have taken it, that we should die to sin.**

A) There are movements and churches based upon this idea. They say that Paul is teaching us that we ought to die to sin.

**B) Yes it is true that we have to make a choice to not sin – but that is not what Paul is saying here.**

C) Paul is not saying that we ought to die to sin ; he is telling us it has been done: We died to sin.

1) Past tense.

**3<sup>rd</sup> neither does Paul mean by this that we are dying to sin.**

A) There are some people who take it that way. They say this means that this is a gradual death.

B) It doesn't mean that at all. Once again, we must face clearly the **flat statement** the apostle makes.

C) He puts it in the Greek aorist tense, which means this is once for all: We died to sin!

**So what does this phrase – We died to sin mean?**

A) To "die to sin" does not mean to be entirely insensitive to sin and temptation.

B) Believers are still involved in a battle with sin.

C) However, Christians no longer have to live as helpless slaves to sin; they can choose not to sin.

**This takes us back to Ch. 5 where Paul makes a contrast of what we were in Adam and what we now are in Christ.**

A) By birth – we were brought into Adam.

**B) We inherited a sin nature / Sin disease – a propensity toward sin. Natural man**

1) Selfish, he is given over to pleasing his flesh

**C) In Adam we were slaves to Sin !**

**We were brought into Christ – through death!**

**A) His death on the Cross!**

**B) Our death to sin must be understood by what His death accomplished**

1) Sin's penalty was taken care of at the Cross

2) Sin's power was destroyed at the Cross

**C) Paul makes this point in Chapter 5 – we were in Adam and now we are in Christ.**

1) By being connected to the death of Christ – We have died to sin.

**D) Its claim on us – its power over us – The penalty it held for us – we have died to all of that.**

**Picture an ancient slave market.**

**A) If you are a slave, you must obey your master's every word. He speaks, you obey.**

**B) You are "alive" to his voice because he is your master.**

1) But suppose you are sold at an auction to a new master.

**C) From the moment of the sale, your old master no longer has any legal right to command you.**

1) He can speak but you no longer have to obey. He can command but you don't have to respond.

**D) You have "died" to his authority and "come alive" to a new master.**

1) Can you still obey the old master? Yes, but you don't have to because he has no power over you unless you choose to give him power.

**It doesn't make sense to obey your old master when you have a new master.**

**A) That is the point that Paul is making here in Ch. 6 – You have died to sin!**

**B) Where this analogy breaks down is in this reality – you have not just been bought by Christ – redeemed**

1) But you have been made a part of Christ.

**C) Joined in His death – but also joined in His Resurrection**

**Notice how He sums it up in Ch. 5 v. 21 – “so that as sin reigned (Ruled- control) in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”**

**A) Sum up what Paul is saying here this way:**

**“Be what you now are, instead of what you were.”**

**B) You were in Adam –but now You are in Christ!**

**I have been made a new man in Christ – Given a new Nature – Christ’s spirit in me!**

A) Now I must learn to get this body to walk in the ways of the Spirit – not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

B) Paul will say later on in this Chapter – V.12 **Don’t let sin reign in these mortal bodies.**

1) Don’t present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin – { that is what you were in Adam

C) Now **in Christ** – so present your members to Him.

**Shall we continue in Sin? – NO way!**

A) Notice he is not asking the question – can we ? Like this is **an impossibility** –

B) No, he is asking – **Shall we ?** Why would we when we realize what we are in Christ!

Bb) I make that distinction for this reason:

C) There are pp who profess Christ – who never change – **they continue in their sin.**

1) I have to question, were they ever saved to begin with.

**But I know others who embrace Christ – there are significant changes that take place in their lives**

A) But sometimes there is one besetting sin that lingers – that they continue to hold on to.

B) That is what I believe Paul is addressing here –  
1) Why would you do that – You died to sin

C) Now Paul is going to give us a few pictures to illustrate his point – **You died to sin !**

1) **First one is the idea of Baptism**

**3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?  
4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.**

**Understand he is not talking about Water Baptism here!**

A) Water Baptism – you do to identify with Christ. Follower – Disciples {Symbolizes a death & Rez

B) But the Bible speaks of a Baptism that takes place when you give your life to Christ.

1) 1 Corinthians 12:13 **“We are baptized into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit.”**

C) It speaks of our Position in Christ – that we have been placed in Christ – fused –

1) **Baptizo – immersed into Christ**

**This is why I said the work of Christ is not just Judicial – but effectual.**

A) **Judicial – His death paid the price –**



**B)But effectual in this - we were fused into that – We died to sin – that day – He died.**

**1)Sin’s penalty and Sin’s power – was done away with that day.**

**2)Son sets free is free indeed.**

**C)But Christ’s work is also **effectual in this way** – He rose and because He rose and now lives in us – by spirit**

**1)We now have the Power to walk in newness of life.**

**D)New in terms of quality – new kind of life**

**Romans 6:5**

**5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection**

**2 Peter 1:3-4**

**His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.**

**Shall we continue in Sin? – No Way**

**A)We died to Sin – No reason to live in Sin anymore**

**B)Alive now in Christ {Live in Christ!!!!**

**C)His **Divine Power and exceedingly great and precious promises** are now available for us to walk in**

**Do it – Be what we are, not what we were!**

**Be what you are in Jesus – not what you were in Adam!**

**Pray!!!**

**Have not embraced Christ – Still dead in your Sin**

**A)Transformation today –**

**B)Give your heart to Jesus!**