

Transformed, Part 4, Romans 6:14-23
“Whose Slave are You?”

Rd V 14-23

Intro After the Civil war & the abolishing of Slavery here in the US – a lot of former slaves – had a hard time believing they were free

A) For a while – some of them were **even duped** by their owners into thinking that the whole thing was not true.

B) Because of **this confusion many of them continued to live in slavery** for a while even though they were completely FREE

1) Some even enduring harsher – treatment from their owners than they did before.

C) Many Christians are confused on the same point.

1) Jesus Christ has given them an **“Emancipation Proclamation,”** but their “old master” tells them they are still slaves to Sin or to a legal relationship with God.

D) Here in Romans 6 Paul is wanting us to see, understand – we are Free.

V. 14 Paul makes a transition Statement:

For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

Paul dedicates ch.7 to the subject the believers’ relationship to the law

A) But here in v.14 he sort of opens the door.

B) We are not under the law –but under grace!

1) And once again Paul anticipates the reaction of his audience.

2) Those who would say – If there is no longer a law – giving a license to sin.

C) Paul – there are going to be those who will respond – **awesome, no law, all grace – Party!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!

D) No way: and here is why? – V. 16 is the big idea in the section: You are a slave to whom or what present ...

16 You are a slave to whom or what you present yourselves as slaves to obey,whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?

A) Paul is using an analogy that would be very common to his readers at this time. – Slavery.

B) Estimated **60million slaves in the Roman empire.** In fact slaves far out numbered those who were free!

C) But slavery during that time in the Roman empire – was far different than the slavery we are associated with in our country’s history.

In our history Africans were considered a lower form of property for work – not much better - an animal.

A) Truly a dark spot in our nation's history.

B) But in the Roman empire – Slaves were more the work force of the nation.

C) Many were well educated, doctors, lawyers, builders, teachers – were all slaves in the sense that – they had an owner –

D) They **earned a salary** – but they were owned in the sense that - They couldn't **just quit their job** and move to another “owner”

E) Now they did have the opportunity after a number of yrs to purchase their freedom.

V19 Paul says I am using this analogy because of the weakness of your flesh.

A) Speaking of Their inability to understand what he was teaching – so he is going to use an analogy they are familiar with. **SLAVERY**

B) Slaves present themselves to their master –

So who or what you are presenting yourself to – you are that one's slave.

Here is his point: Everyone is a Slave to something!

A) Because we all are constantly presenting ourselves to something.

B) Bob Dylan was right – You have to serve somebody!

1) Might be the Devil – might be the Lord. But you are going to have to Serve someone.

**Three things we want to consider in today's passage:
THREE MAIN POINTS**

#1 The nature of Sin

#2 Being a slave of Christ involves a different form of obedience.

#3 Jesus is a great Master.

#1 The nature of sin.

A) There are 3 things we need to understand about the nature of sin.

B) **1st Sin is Deceptive!** Says **“This awesome” You don't want to miss this.** –

Bb) The Bible tells us/**Sin is pleasurable for a Season**

C) Sin is fun- Right? – Fun sinning!

1) Part of the Lie- No consequences { **NO ONE WILL KNOW – OUR LITTLE SECRET-**

Galatians 6:7-9

“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.”

D) Sin is like farming – you reap what you sow!

1) Apple seeds = Apples – not oranges

There is a progressive nature to sin that is the point Paul is making in v. 19-22

A) **V.19 Sin leads to more sin** –lawlessness leads to more lawlessness - Never dormant.

B) **V.22 Paul actually uses the idea Fruit** – something is being produced –

1) Sow seeds – Sin – Sin is going to be the result!

C) Sow to the flesh – reap – destruction.

But Part of the Deception is this you seldom reap in the season you sow.

A) So For a while the damage goes undetected.

B) **You're enjoying your sin.** You're ringing up the charges, but you haven't been hit with the *bill* - **but trust me, YOU WILL!**

C) Reminds me of the guy who denied the law of gravity - just didn't believe it applied to him and so he decided to prove it.

He climbed to the top of a twenty-story building and dove off.

His last words were heard as he sailed past a guy on the third floor, "*Hey, nothing's happened yet!*"

D) Paul says God is not mocked! – In DUE season you will REAP!

So first of all – Sin is Deceptive.

2nd thing we need to realize about the nature of sin is that Sin's desire is to Dominate:

A) Rule you! –Make you it's slave

B) I know people **enslaved to pride.**

1) They won't admit their faults and failures, and their refusal drives away the people that love them most.

C) I know folks **enslaved to stuff.**

1) Possessions come before people.

C) I have heard about a guy who put fishing ahead of his wife. So His *bass boat* sunk his *love boat*.

D) I know folks **enslaved to pleasure.**

1) They chase *the highest high* and *the biggest buzz* even to the detriment of their marriage and kids and health.

I'm sure you're getting the point...

A) In this world/ room today there're

slaves to success, slaves to sports,
slaves to money, slaves to control –

B)Slaves to ease, food, and fear, and drugs, and porn, and hate...

C)Everyone is a slave.

1)You're either mastered by sin or you are mastered by God.

D)You're either the servant of sin or you're the servant of God.

1)And there's no middle ground. There's no place in between.

E)And if you are not God's slave, then you're sin's slave; and you're ultimately Satan's slave.

1)And Satan is the cruelest task master there could possibly be.

Now in our society: There is a lot of talk today about addictions – People being addicts.

A)Addicted to drugs, addicted to alcohol, addicted to sex, addicted to Porn, addicted to lying, gambling.

B)Often times **the conversation moves** in the direction of –this is an illness, or a syndrome –

1)so they are not responsible for their actions.

C)We need to get them help – show them how to not give into their illness.

Precious People – Understand something here – Addictions are real – not denying that. –

A)But the idea that those things are an illness or a syndrome, you are not responsible for your actions.

B)God's word does not support that – especially for a Christian.

C)Listen, the Bible clearly –over and over again – calls those type of behavior sin

1)Sin that needs to be **REPENTED OF!**

I will admit there is a difference between being addicted to Alcohol or drugs because there is a chemical element involved.

A)Sometimes extreme measures need to be taken to purge the chemical out of a person's system – Crystal 90-120 days.

B)So if I take a person **addicted to Heroin** – Place in a room – give them their Bible – **BE TOUGH**

1)They are going to go through sweats, nauseated, - throw up – **It will be a horrific couple of days** to purge that drug out of their system.

C) But there are {Researchers today say: Pp Addicted to Porn..

1) that when people look at porn there is a chemical released in the brain – **called dopamine** it has to do with Pleasure sensation.

D) That same chemical is released when someone uses Heroin –

1) so there are those today that want to say – Looking at porn is as addictive as using heroin. {becomes excuse

Not true, Prove it

A) I can take a person – “addicted to Porn.” Room with only food and their Bible for 3 days

Fast/pray/read – result awesome time with God!

B) This is my Point: there are many things that pp in our society want to label as addictions –

1) that are really about people just choosing to Give into sinful fleshly appetites/cravings

In the 14th century two brothers, Raynald and Edward, fought for the right to rule Belgium.

After a heated battle Edward won and took his brother to live in his castle. A special room was built for Raynald.

Edward was criticized for imprisoning his own brother, but he insisted Raynald was not a prisoner at all. He could leave whenever he wanted.

And true to Edward’s word, Raynald’s room had no guards – no bars – no chains - just a normal size door...
What was it that held Raynald?

You see Raynald had the nickname, “**Crassus.**” It’s Latin for “**fat.**” He was horribly obese. So big he couldn’t fit through a normal size door.

And everyday Edward would send his best chef up to Raynald’s room with all kinds of scrumptious foods, and desserts, and pastries.

For 10 years Raynald remained confined to that room. All he had to do was slim down and he could walk out.

Yet, Raynald was a prisoner – not of his brother, Edward – but of his own appetites.

There are a lot of people today in our world enslaved to sin – because of their own appetites.

A) But Others are enslaved to their past sin. – Abortion – GUILT - can’t forgive yourself.

B) Some pp R enslaved to Sins committed against them- They grew up in a dysfunctional family.

1) Abusive father – consequently – the idea of God being their father doesn’t even compute.

C) Many pp – some in this church – hard time believing the truths of the Bible because they run it through the filter of their past experience.

1) WE MUST RESIST THAT TEMPTATION – EMBRACE THE TRUTH.

D) Truth of God’s word sets us free – transforms our whole life.

So the nature of sin is – Deceptive / Dominate

3rd Results in Death.

A) Makes me think of death Valley California

B) How get that name? Prospectors died –cross

1) Empty, Barren worthless wasteland

C) That is what happens to the Person – who is enslaved to sin.

1) Their life eventually becomes a empty barren worthless wasteland.

D) But the Lord has something so much better

1) You can be the slave of Jesus

Main point -#2 Being a slave of Christ involves a different form of obedience. V.17

17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. 18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

A) Obedience from the heart = Sincere and Genuine – obedience out of love

B) Not all obedience is Sincere and genuine

Often times it is to get out of jam. Lord get me out of this jam – don't let them give me a ticket –fire me

A) I promise I will never do that again.

I promise I will serve you –

B) **NOT SINCERE!** – Deep down they know – they really have no intention of not doing that again.

Other times it is in hopes of not losing things.

A) I have seen my **share of husbands** who got caught – Porn – adultery or something of that nature.

Their wife is ready to leave them

B) **They cry – seemingly repent** – I am sorry – and for a while – for a season – a few months – doing all the right things

1) They are saying all the right things – kind – they're helpful – considerate – romantic

C) But it doesn't last – not sincere – not Genuine – the MOTIVATION IS – I don't want to lose her.

D) Good cook – **cleans**- takes care of me and kids – I don't want to lose her

E) Slowly the guy drifts back into his old patterns sometimes even returns to his sin – because –

1) Although he says – loves his wife and family { He does –there is love there.

2) But ultimately HE LOVES HIMSELF / sin MORE !

But when obedience is from the heart it is life Changing. It is obedience to a form of Doctrine.

A)It's interesting that Paul uses this terminology, rather than just simply saying that it's an obedience to God, which it ultimately is.

B)But he says it's an obedience to this "form of doctrine."

1)And what he's talking about here, again, he's speaking of the gospel. It's an obedience to the gospel.

C)But he uses this word – "**form**". And the word can also be translated, or it refers to a mould.

1)And notice the picture here. **This mould of teaching that you were delivered to.**

D)Jesus' death and Rez accomplished for you.

1) DEAD AND ALIVE

E)Dead to sin – Penalty /claim/ power

1)Alive in Christ –Rez Power

So what Paul is talking about here is this, as we exercise sincere faith, as we're obeying from the heart, this form of Doctrine –

A)The truth who we are in Christ – who Jesus is in Us -

B)The Spirit of God is delivering us over to this doctrine that is going to mould us and shape us into the image of Jesus Christ.

B)That is the power of the GOSPEL – transforms those who obey from the heart.

C)Heart obedience happens when we realize – Just how greatly we are loved by Jesus

It is interesting to me Jesus told His disciples I no longer call you servants – I call you friends

A)But everyone of those men –who were called by the Lord to write and epistle or a gospel

B)They referred to themselves as not the friend of Jesus – but the servant of Jesus

Doulos – Bondslave – Slave by choice

C)A slave in Roman culture could after 7 yrs go free

1)Liked his master – Doulos – Bondslave

D)Dolous – Bondslave – A willing slave – who loved his master and wanted to serve them forever.

E)That is what We are – Dolous – A willing slave of JC

1)Obedience from the heart

#3 Jesus is a great Master!

23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life **in** Christ Jesus our Lord.

A)Contrast: Death – Life

B)Life = quality of life in Christ – Connected to Christ

B) Jesus said: My yoke is easy, my burden is light

1) Easy = well fitting

C) Your savior – has a plan perfect for you.

**Believe that – trust that – Awesome – freeing
This is what I was made for – follow Jesus**

A) Serve Jesus – not a burden – HAVE TO

B) Get to!

**Think of it this way: When I got married – I became
the Slave of Denise –**

A) Are you saying – Ball and Chain/ She wears the
Pants – No –

B) But I fell in love with this woman –

1) NO longer presenting myself to other women – Not
interested

2) After serving Jesus – I live to make her Happy

C) **So Something she likes – I like it !** Things she likes
to do – I do! – Accept Pride and Prejudice

1) Draw the line somewhere – 3 girls – can't handle it –
6 girls – Mr. Darby

D) Something where someone Kills someone

I like to shop for my wife.

A) The things I do for my wife – are not a have to –
not a GOT TO – GET TO

B) People that is the key to the Christian life – Get to

1) Bondservants – Go for it

C) Going back to v.19-22 Sin is progressive

D) But **Righteousness is also Progressive** – sowing seeds
of righteousness leads to more righteousness

1) Fruit is that which is pleasing God and a blessing
to others

**Some of you guys were rowdy sinners. You didn't
just sin, you sinned with gusto!**

A) You were a rambunctious sinner. Now turn that
aggressiveness and energy toward God.

B) ***Be rowdy and rambunctious for righteousness.***

Spurgeon used to observe, “The most useful members of
a church are usually those who would be doing harm if
they were not doing good...”

Death or Life - Your Choice

D) Whose slave are you?

Jesus Purchased your Redemption -