

Romans part 6

Romans 1 – God made Himself Known, but man rejected Him causing man to fall into deep depravity

Romans 2 – We cannot earn righteousness apart from God

Romans 3 – Jesus is the way to righteousness

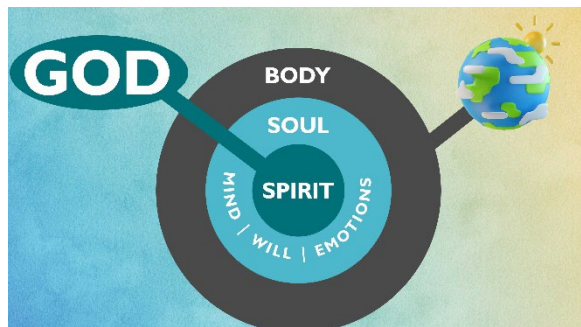
Romans 4 – Our righteousness is by faith in Jesus and not by works

Romans 5 – We have peace with God. We are transferred out of the line of Adam and into the Line of Christ.

Romans 6 – We are dead to sin and alive to Christ.

Romans 6:12-13 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. ¹³ And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

- Now that you know you are dead to sin and alive with Christ. Now that you have reckoned yourselves dead to sin and alive to God...
- Do not let sin reign in your mortal body.
 - Why does he say in your mortal body? Because that is where sin is. Your spirit (who you truly are) is made perfect and righteous through faith in Jesus.
 - Your soul is at it's most basic level, a decision maker.
 - Spirit – how we relate to God
 - Soul – How we relate to people
 - Body – How we relate to the physical world



- Soul either gets it's power to make decisions from your Spirit (walking in the Spirit) or from the information it gets from the world, which comes through your body (walking in the flesh).
- Do not let your Body have the most say in any decisions. Your worldview should come from God and God alone.
- Sin should never have dominion over us – we are free.

Storytime:

In the fourteenth century two brothers fought for the right to rule over a dukedom in what is now Belgium. The elder brother's name was Raynald, but he was commonly called "Crassus," a Latin nickname meaning "fat," for he was horribly obese. After a heated battle, Raynald's younger brother Edward led a successful revolt against him and assumed the title of Duke over his lands. But instead of killing Raynald, Edward devised a curious imprisonment. He had a room in the castle built around "Crassus," a room with only one door. The door was not locked, the windows were not barred, and Edward promised Raynald that he could regain his land and his title any time that he wanted to. All he would have to do is leave the room. The obstacle to freedom was not in the doors or the windows, but with Raynald himself. Being grossly overweight, he could not fit through the door, even though it was of near-normal size. All Raynald needed to do was diet down to a smaller size, then walk out a free man, with all he had before his fall. However, his younger brother kept sending him an assortment of tasty foods, and Raynald's desire to be free never won out over his desire to eat. Some would accuse Duke Edward of being cruel to his older brother, but he would simply reply, "My brother is not a prisoner. He may leave when he so wills." But Raynald stayed in that room.

This accurately illustrates the experience of many Christians. Jesus set them forever free legally, and they may walk in that freedom from sin whenever they choose. But since they keep yielding their bodily appetites to the service of sin, they live a life of defeat, discouragement, and imprisonment.

- Do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness...

- Your members are your parts of your body. your ears, lips, eyes, hands, mind, and so forth. The idea is very practical: "You have eyes. Do not put them in the service of sin. You have ears. Do not put them in the service of sin."
- The children's song be careful little eyes what you see...
- Is there anything in the world so important or so entertaining that it is worth participating in the very things that Christ died to set you free from?

Romans 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

- Sin actually has no power to have dominion over us. We are not under sin, we are under grace.
 - The only power sin has over us is the power we grant it.
 - There is no the devil made me do it. Or I am only human. We are set free and under a new rule – the rule of grace.

Romans 6:15-19 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin *leading* to death, or of obedience *leading* to righteousness? 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. ¹⁹ I speak in human *terms* because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members *as* slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness *leading to more* lawlessness, so now present your members *as* slaves of righteousness for holiness.

- Again, just because we are under grace this is not a license to sin.
- Whichever master we choose to serve, sin or righteousness, we become slaves to that thing.
 - Sin leads to death
 - Righteousness leads to life. Choose life.

What this looks like:

You were a caterpillar. Then God transformed you into a butterfly.

Living in sin is like plucking the wings off of a butterfly. It does not become a caterpillar again. It becomes a wingless butterfly. And a butterfly without wings cannot live. It will die. Because it is meant to live as a butterfly, not as a caterpillar.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We choose! Do you want to live a life that produces death?

Do you want to live a life that produces life? Victory, breakthrough, joy, overcoming are all marked by lives lived that live from the Spirit.

You can still sin and still be in the Kingdom of God. But you cannot live in sin and expect to experience the victories, breakthroughs and joys that are part of the Kingdom of God.

Reference or read only

Romans 7:1-6 Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives? ² For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to *her* husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of *her* husband. ³ So then if, while *her* husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man. ⁴ Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God. ⁵ For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death. ⁶ But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not *in* the oldness of the letter.

- This passage is intended to assuage the argument of those under the law that they remain under the law (the Mosaic law). So this passage is for those under the Old Testament
- But it is also for the New Testament believer. We are not bound to the Mosaic law any longer. We are set free and are under the law of grace.
- Just like a marriage covenant is nullified if one dies, when we died with Christ we nullified the covenant and entered a New Covenant.

Then we can just throw away the law, right?

Romans 7:7-12 What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "*You shall not covet.*"⁸ But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all *manner of evil* desire. For apart from the law sin *was* dead.⁹ I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died.¹⁰ And the commandment, which *was* to *bring* life, I found to *bring* death.¹¹ For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed *me*.¹² Therefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.

- The law is not sin. It is not evil. It was given by God, so it is holy and good.
- But if we are not under the law, what application does it have for us?
- It tells us what sin is. We would not know that coveting is sin, except that the law outright tells us it is sin.
- The weakness of the law isn't in the law. It is in us. When we are not saved, our sinful nature desires to rail against the law.
- Without the law – nothing to define right and wrong – sin had no power. It was dead. (The law of conscience).
- I was alive once - Paul is saying that when he was born, he had no sin consciousness. But when he understood right from wrong, the very thing meant to bring life in him actually brought death.
- The reason? Sin used the commandments to deceive him and used it as a weapon to kill him. Forbidden fruit.

- The conclusion? Just because we sin, that does not make the law unholy. The commandments are good and just, but they reveal what is in man.

Replacement Theology (aka supersessionism)

- This is the Christian(ish) doctrine that the Christian Church has superseded the Jewish people, assuming their role as God's covenanted people, thus asserting that the New Covenant through Jesus Christ has superseded or replaced the Mosaic covenant.
- This is a **WRONG** and **dangerous** doctrine.
- So where is the law today and what is it's function?

The Mosaic law (613 commands) is separated into 3 categories. The **Moral** law, the **Ceremonial** Law, and the **Civil** Law.

Jesus said He came to fulfill the law.

- **Matthew 5:17** "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.

How does Jesus fulfill the Law?

Ceremonial Law – All the ceremonies, feasts, celebrations, observances point to Christ. The most obvious example of this is Passover. Or perhaps all the ceremony that goes into sacrifices. All point to a coming Messiah. The book of Hebrews shows how Jesus is this fulfillment.

These are all shadows that point to Christ. We are no longer bound to keep them but can if we wish.

- **Colossians 2:16-17** So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, ¹⁷ which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

Moral Law – The moral law actually existed prior to Moses and was passed on orally. But Moses wrote it down. The moral law is to reveal righteousness. But where we could not keep the law, Jesus kept the law, then paid our debt by becoming the perfect sacrifice and now our righteousness is by faith in Him.

- **Hebrews 10:12-14** But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. ¹⁴ For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

In Romans, Paul is speaking of the moral law. His primarily Jewish audience, and those Romans surrounded by Jews would have fully understood this.

We are not under the power of the moral law – faith by God’s grace brings righteousness, but the law shows us what God deems as sin or holy.

Another failure of the moral law is that law can only deal with outcomes (Do not murder). Jesus came to deal with the source (Do not hate).

- **Romans 7:7** What shall we say then? *Is the law sin?* Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, “*You shall not covet.*”

Civil law – deals with justice. What is the penalty for committing certain crimes? How should the law be enforced? When is restitution required?

The Civil laws of Israel were made for a theocracy and can only be carried out at a governmental level. The theocracy of Israel ended because Israel broke its Covenant with God. Right now, Christ sits at the right hand of God in heaven. But one day Christ will return to sit on the throne of David and once again God will have a theocracy here on earth for 1000 years.

- However - a society will function at it’s absolute best and strongest when it legislates according to God’s law. That’s why I vote not on candidate but on how closely their policies align with Biblical law.

Romans 7:13 Has then what is good become death to me? Certainly not! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.

- Sin must be revealed as sin. The law and the commandments of God accomplish this
 - This is why Jesus did not destroy the law. He fulfilled the law.
 - We died to the law, meaning it's power over us – but the law is still useful
 - When sin is not revealed as sin – we get what is happening in our country now. We call evil good and good evil. People do not know right from wrong. People believe saints are sinners.
 - We must build our moral code on the foundation of God's laws.