

GOD'S WORD IS LIFE

Pastor Mark Anderson

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

SESSION FIVE: Study Outline for Romans 6:1-23

Introduction: Dying and Rising with Christ

This chapter invites us to understand the radical change, actually not symbolically, that occurs in our lives through baptism. It's a call to live in the reality of our new life in Christ, freed from the dominion of sin and empowered by grace.

Purpose:

Paul emphasizes the death of our old life of sin to a new life under the reign of grace. This is not just theological theory but a consequence of Jesus' death on the Cross. Dying daily is the everyday reality of those who are baptized into Christ.

Themes:

Union with Christ in His death and resurrection, freedom from sin, living under grace, the death of the old self, and the beginning of a new life in Christ.

Objective:

Our aim is to grasp how Paul paints the picture of our spiritual transformation through baptism, showing the stark contrast between a life in bondage to sin and a life liberated by grace.

I. Union with Christ in Baptism (Romans 6:1-11)

Romans 6:1-4:

- **Dying with Christ:**
 - Paul begins by addressing a potential misunderstanding about grace and sin, emphasizing that our baptism is a profound union with Christ's death.
 - Through baptism, we participate in Christ's death. In baptism we die.
- **Rising with Christ:**
 - Just as Christ was raised from the dead, we too are raised to walk (live) in newness of life. Baptism is not merely symbolic but a powerful means of grace by which the Word of God brings us into this new reality by water and the Spirit. In baptism we live.

Romans 6:5-11:

- **New Life in Christ:**

- Being united with Christ in a death like His means we will also share in a resurrection like His. The baptized Christian is united with Christ, held in faith by Him.
 - Our old self was crucified with Him, so we are no longer slaves to sin. Through His resurrection, we are alive to God in Christ Jesus. We will still sin but its power to condemn has been crucified with Christ.
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II. Freedom from Sin's Power (Romans 6:12-14)

Romans 6:12-14:

- **Living under Grace:**

- Paul exhorts believers not to let sin reign in their bodies. Instead, we are set free to offer ourselves to God as instruments of righteousness.
 - Sin no longer has dominion over us because we are under grace, not law.
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III. Slaves to Righteousness (Romans 6:15-23)

Romans 6:15-19:

- **Slaves to Righteousness:**

- Paul addresses another possible misunderstanding, emphasizing that grace does not lead to lawlessness.
- Instead, we have become obedient from the heart, completely righteousness by grace through faith, which is our sanctification.

Romans 6:20-23:

- **The Outcome of a New Life:**

- While the wages of sin is death, the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- Paul contrasts the outcomes of being bound to sin versus being made alive in the righteousness of God, which leads to eternal life.