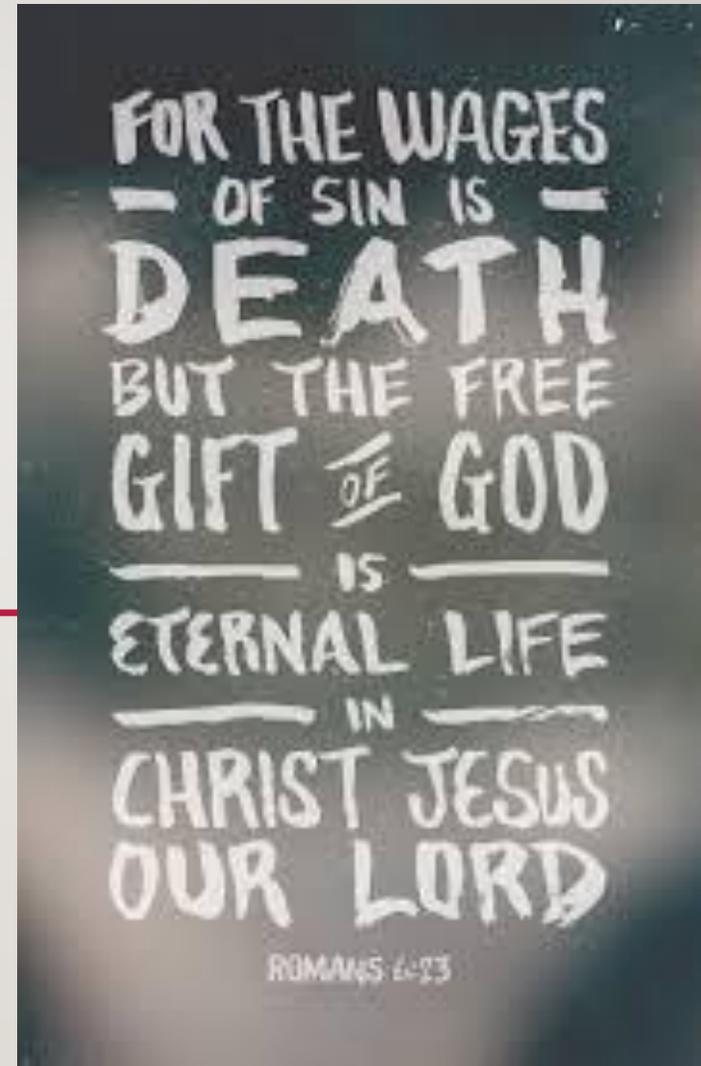


ROMANS 6

NEW LIFE





Extreme
MAKEOVER
HOME EDITION





HAVE YOU EVER LIVED AN EXTREME MAKEOVER?

- If you are a Christian, in God's sight you have had an eternal, forever "makeover". There is a "Before/After" for you. Before what? Before you came to know Christ as Savior = you were a "slave of sin" ([Romans 6:16](#)). Now, because of your spiritual rebirth ([John 3:16](#)) your after = "a slave to righteousness" ([Romans 6:18](#)).

WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

- If people who had those extreme makeovers go back to their old life bad habits (eat junk food, not exercising, not taking care of their teeth, wearing the old clothes, not taking care of their houses) they will not really live the benefits of their new lives. They have to keep the new habits from now on. The old man died.
- And for us, christians, who received new life in Christ? Shall we go back to the old life? Not at all!
- Romans 6 is all about **SANTIFICATION**.

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- 6 1-5 So what do we do? Keep on sinning so God can keep on forgiving? I should hope not! If we've left the country where sin is sovereign, how can we still live in our old house there? Or didn't you realize we packed up and left there for good? That is what happened in baptism. When we went under the water, we left the old country of sin behind; when we came up out of the water, we entered into the new country of grace—a new life in a new land! That's what baptism into the life of Jesus means. When we are lowered into the water, it is like the burial of Jesus; when we are raised up out of the water, it is like the resurrection of Jesus. Each of us is raised into a light-filled world by our Father so that we can see where we're going in our new grace-sovereign country.



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- 6-11 Could it be any clearer? Our old way of life was nailed to the cross with Christ, a decisive end to that sin-miserable life—no longer at sin's every beck and call! What we believe is this: If we get included in Christ's sin-conquering death, we also get included in his life-saving resurrection. We know that when Jesus was raised from the dead it was a signal of the end of death-as-the-end. Never again will death have the last word. When Jesus died, he took sin down with him, but alive he brings God down to us. From now on, think of it this way: Sin speaks a dead language that means nothing to you; God speaks your mother tongue, and you hang on every word. You are dead to sin and alive to God. That's what Jesus did.

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- 12-14 That means you must not give sin a vote in the way you conduct your lives. Don't give it the time of day. Don't even run little errands that are connected with that old way of life. Throw yourselves wholeheartedly and full-time—remember, you've been raised from the dead!—into God's way of doing things. Sin can't tell you how to live. After all, you're not living under that old tyranny any longer. You're living in the freedom of God.

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- 15-18 So, since we're out from under the old tyranny, does that mean we can live any old way we want? Since we're free in the freedom of God, can we do anything that comes to mind? Hardly. You know well enough from your own experience that there are some acts of so-called freedom that destroy freedom. Offer yourselves to sin, for instance, and it's your last free act. But offer yourselves to the ways of God and the freedom never quits. All your lives you've let sin tell you what to do. But thank God you've started listening to a new master, one whose commands set you free to live openly in his freedom!

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- 19 I'm using this freedom language because it's easy to picture. You can readily recall, can't you, how at one time the more you did just what you felt like doing—not caring about others, not caring about God—the worse your life became and the less freedom you had? And how much different is it now as you live in God's freedom, your lives healed and expansive in holiness?

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- 20-23 As long as you did what you felt like doing, ignoring God, you didn't have to bother with right thinking or right living, or right anything for that matter. But do you call that a free life? What did you get out of it? Nothing you're proud of now. Where did it get you? A dead end. But now that you've found you don't have to listen to sin tell you what to do, and have discovered the delight of listening to God telling you, what a surprise! A whole, healed, put-together life right now, with more and more of life on the way! Work hard for sin your whole life and your pension is death. But God's gift is real life, eternal life, delivered by Jesus, our Master.

ROMANS 6 – KEY WORDS

BAPTISM

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- Romans 6:3-5. Spiritual baptism. At conversion, when the Holy Spirit regenerates us He positions us “in Christ” We are identified with Christ. Water baptism is symbolic of this spiritual act. We need to know that when Christ died, we died with Him, when He was buried, we were buried, when He was raised, we too were raised to newness of life with Him. As far as God is concerned identifying with Christ resulted in our dying to the sin nature within us and living to the resurrected life of Christ (Romans 6:5).

ROMANS 6 – KEY WORDS

CRUCIFIXION

- Romans 6:6. Sin is crucified, powerless, inoperative, no longer powerful, ineffective.

SLAVERY

- Romans 6:7-10. Christians do not have to serve sin ever again. Instead, this new life is empowered by God for the overcoming of sin in every aspect of our lives.

“I DON’T FEEL FREED FROM SIN, I LOOK AT MY LIFE, I STILL HAVE BAD HABITS, THOUGHTS. I’M STILL ANGRY AT MY SPOUSE, WITH MY IN-LAWS, I CAN’T CONTROL MY DESIRE. HOW CAN YOU SAY I’M DELIVERED?”

God’s truths are not dependent on our feelings, emotions.

Whether you feel like your sin nature has been made powerless or not, God’s Word says it has. We’ll see in Romans 7 what causes us to continue to sin but in God’s sight our sin nature has been crucified with Christ. The critical truth we need to understand is that:



We don’t have to keep on living defeated or discouraged because of sin, we now have the power of the Holy Spirit to live alive to God and dead to sin.

RECKONING SIN DEAD IN OUR LIVES IS THE BEGINNING OF EXPERIENCING GOD'S POWER TO MAKE SIN DEAD AND CHRIST'S LIFE WITHIN ME REAL.

- Count it as true and act accordingly. When sin tempts us, we should act as though we were indeed dead to it, giving absolutely no response to the temptation. But when God speaks we should act as though we are very much alive, giving instant, absolute obedience. It is a matter of faith that issues in action. It's like endorsing a check if we know that there is money in the account, we will sign our name and collect the money.
- When I count myself dead to: worry, anger, losing my temper, demanding perfection in my children, overeating, recreational drugs or misuse of prescription drugs, excessive drinking, breaking the law, smoking, gossiping, criticism of friends or family, flirting with a wrong relationship, stealing, little white lies, self-pity...then I will choose not to let that sin be part of my life.

WE ARE DEAD TO SIN BUT WE WILL NEVER BE DEAD TO THE TEMPTATION TO SIN, IT'S ALWAYS THERE.

- Romans 6:13 Do not go on presenting, offering yourself to sin.
- In practical terms; don't put yourself in a position, a situation, a place where you know you're going to fail. For example, if you deal with lust, a wrong desire for the wrong person, don't go to movies that have sex, nudity and approve of extramarital affairs. Don't present your eyes to see that. If you deal with gossip, you find yourself talking about others and very easily slip from just the facts to judging their motives, behavior, dress or Christian walk, then don't let yourself bring up other people's names, don't present your ears to hear, stop information before it gets to gossip. Don't present your tongue to spread gossip to others.

There is always
free cheese
in a mousetrap

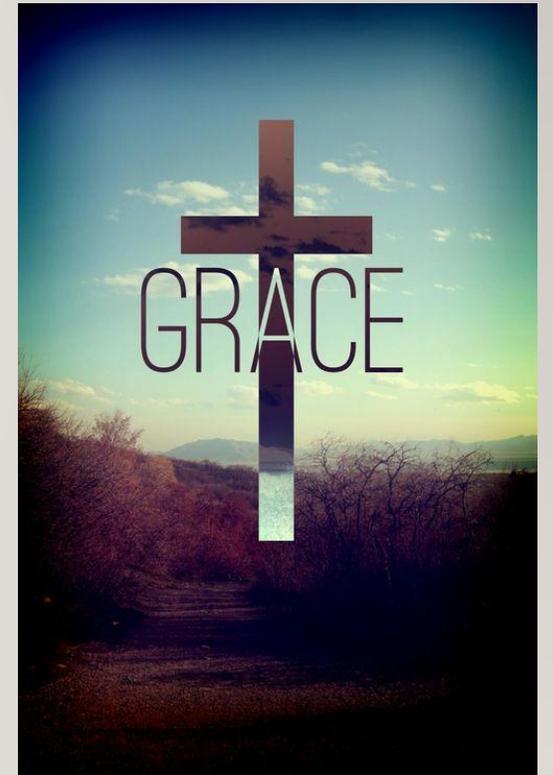


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SOME OTHER KEY WORDS

FAVOR

- Romans 6:14,15. It's because of God's grace that we yield ourselves to Him. How foolish to think that being saved by God's grace could be a reason for living as if we had not been saved at all! Remembering that we have a new master who is holy and righteous and expects us to live in a way that reflects His character gives us the reason to live a new life. Love for Him gives us the motivation. As believers we come to know that continuing victory over sin **DOES NOT DEPEND** on our own efforts but on the abundant supply of God's grace, his favor toward us, His power in us, that He says is sufficient for all our needs.



SOME OTHER KEY WORDS

FREEDOM



- Romans 6:16-20. Paul uses the illustration of master and slave. It's obvious that whatever you yield to becomes your master. there are only 2 masters, we can choose to obey sin or the Lord. When we yield (surrender, give in) to our sin nature, we are not simply sinning but we are developing sinful habits (Romans 6:16). If we choose to obey God, submit to Him, develop habits of holiness, those will lead to purity in our lives. We used to be slaves to sin, but now we are free from sin and bound to righteousness. An unsaved person is free from righteousness (Romans 6:20) Slavery to sin makes it harder and harder to do right.

FREEDOM X SLAVERY

WHY DOES PAUL HAVE TO TELL US (ROMANS 6:19) TO PRESENT, OFFER OURSELVES AS SLAVES TO RIGHTEOUSNESS? IS IT A VOLUNTEER PROCESS?

- **We still have our old sin nature, it has been rendered inoperative by the cross but it is still there as long as we are alive on planet earth.** It no longer has authority over us in that we can overcome but its potential is there until we are with the Lord
- **We still have free will.** Our salvation from sin has given us the freedom and desire to live righteously but we are not forced to do so. We make choices.

6 Are you a slave to sin or to obedience? (Romans, 6: 16)



Slaves to sin
↓
Death

Slaves to obedience
↓
Righteousness

7 How can we become slaves to obedience ["slaves to righteousness" (Romans, 6: 18)]?

"But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted" (Romans, 6: 17)

The right doctrine or teaching helps us to become "slaves to righteousness"

SOME OTHER KEY WORDS

FRUIT

- If you work for someone you can expect wages. Sin pays wages=death. God also pays=holiness, eternal life. In the old life, we produced fruit that made us ashamed, guilty, or happy for a short time until that guilty feeling came. In the new life, we produce fruit that glorifies God, gives purpose to our lives and causes lasting joy.
- **It's possible to be free and still live like a slave.**
- **It's possible to be a slave and think you are free.**

GOD WANTS US TO LIVE HIS “MAKEOVER”. BUT HE WANTS US TO KEEP ON LIVING IT EVERYDAY.

THINK AND PRAY

Do you have a habit, attitude you'd like to see changed? Name it. Tell God you know it's wrong, you know that according to the Word of God that sin has been made inoperative, it is powerless to control you anymore because of the Cross. Consider, count it dead from today on, it has no power to rule your life. Trusting not on your feelings but on faith that He will help you and make this real. Paul's first instruction (Know) focuses on our Mind. His second instruction (reckon) focuses on our Hearts. His third instruction (Yield) focuses on our Will.

