

Romans 6

1 A rhetorical question and one some may have been claiming Paul implied, so he brings it out clearly. This issues from his statement in 5:20 - "where sin increases, grace increased all the more." The Law makes us even guiltier, but God's grace is greater still. So do we say, "Hey since we can't do it, and God has grace where sin is most abundant, lets party on?" No WAY - that is a twisting of what Paul is declaring. epimenô - go on - abide in - see use in 1Corinthians 16:8 It has the idea of living with, in fellowship. One translator puts it, "Shall we habitually sustain the same relationship to the sinful nature...?" The present subjunctive tense gives the idea of habitual action. Not, do I ever commit a sinful act, but do I continue my past relationship with sin, comfortably living with it? 2:4; Galatians 5:13; Jude 1:4

2 If sin causes a display of the grace of God why should we stop? Because we died to rebellious ways and accepted the Lordship of Jesus. We have a new king. King sin was dethroned. If we allowed our sin to be nailed with Jesus to the cross what are we doing resurrecting it!? Instead of constantly missing the mark God has for us, we should be obeying the Spirit and getting bull's eyes! Death to sin (the sin nature as king) is a part of salvation. People that claim to be saved without a life change are not new creatures IN Christ Jesus. 1John 3:9; 2Corinthians 5:14-15

3 Colossians 3:3 See sermon Dead Man Walking If you haven't died, you need to! Baptism is a picture of dying to the sin nature. Our sin is nailed to the cross with Christ and dies with Him there. Baptism is to be immersed in something - If you were immersed into Christ, you were immersed into His death. Galatians 3:27, 2:20

4 Baptism's symbolism is burial and resurrection. Our sinful self dies with Christ and we are raised with him a new creature. The power of the sin nature is broken, and we have the desires of the new nature. Now we have the power and the desire to say "NO!" to sin. Why are we resurrected with Him? So we may live a new life! Are you living it? Has the old gone and the new come? 2 Corinthians 5:17 Are you manifesting daily the life of Christ or your old self? 8:11; 1 Corinthians 6:14; Colossians 2:12-13

5 We are talking about why we should not go on sinning. Paul is making it very clear that a resurrected life will follow a death to the sinful nature at acceptance of Jesus as Lord. New life follows death to the sinful nature as a logical conclusion of being united with Christ in His death. Philippians 3:10-11

6 The body of sin is to be rendered powerless. It is not non-existent and no mortal in Scripture claimed to be sinless,-- mature or full grown, but never sinless. We now have the power to refuse to serve sin as Master of our life. Use that power! It is a moment by moment choice over which we have been empowered by the Holy Spirit to choose as we should. Col 3:9, Eph 4:22; Galatians 6:14

7 Stands justified - perfect passive indicative Have we died? Are you freed? 7:2 Do you have a new Master? Crucial questions for a life that is godly and usable by the Master.

8 If we are dead to sin, then we can live the resurrected life with Jesus. Now and forever live with Him. Can the unholy live in the presence of the holy? Then we must choose to die and live by His new life within us. 2Corinthians 4:10-11

9 He conquered death! 1Corinthians 15:54-57 Why would we want to go back to death when we have new life? Revelation 1:18

10 We should be with him in that death to sin. Not once and for all but once, for all. Jesus lives to God and as we abide in Him we do also. Our life is no longer unto self, but unto Him. Hebrews 9:26-28

11 If He is Lord in your life, if you have died with Him, Col 3:1-5 know that you are dead to sin but alive to God. That is reality! The enemy may cause you to doubt that, and you may make mistakes, you may even choose to do wrong - but know that is out of character. That is raising the old man from the tomb and asking him for some assistance. He's just a powerless zombie and you can blow him back into the tomb with your breath. You are alive to God! Try to understand the implications. You are on a mission here to change the world around you as Jesus did. As the Father has sent me so send I you!

12 Watch that little word "let" in Scripture. It means you have a choice to allow something to happen. 1 Peter 1:13-15; James 1:21 Every moment you have a choice and the more you choose righteousness the more it becomes your inclination. The old habits are sometimes slow to change if we are not determined to change them. A fruit of the Spirit is self-control. Choose it! When someone says, "The devil made me do it" they are declaring that they are unregenerate. The Devil can't make those alive in Christ do anything. He can tempt you, but in Christ we let Jesus answer the temptation with his LIFE.

13 See the clear choice? I can yield my tongue to murmuring or to praise. I can yield my mind to Scripture or TV garbage. I can use my arms to labor for someone who needs help or I can punch someone in the nose. I can look at the eyes of my sister and see Jesus or I can use them to lust. Every moment we choose who to offer our body to. We are instruments, tools, of wickedness or righteousness. 13:14

14 Born again, resurrected Christian, sin shall not be your master (lord)!!! You have gone from cold hard letter of the Law which required wrote obedience, to grace which lovingly draws out the desire to yield your members as instruments of righteousness. Do you see some that do what they think is right because they were taught and conditioned, but there is no resurrection life in them? That is just like the Law. They feel they must do what they have been taught to gain approval from man or God, but there is no heart felt obedience to One who covered their wrongs with His blood. Jesus is Lord (Master) in our lives because His love draws love from our hearts. We died with Him and are raised to new life in Him. This is as deep as it gets! 2Corinthians 3:6-9