

**ROMANS SERIES TWELVE
HOW TO NEVER SIN AGAIN**

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Romans 6:1-14; Rom. 7:18-25; Luke 15:11-24

Tax bill from England for internet.

●**SLIDE**: Most of us never heard one gunshot of the American Revolution. Never knew George Washington or Thomas Jefferson or Ben Franklin or any of those great men who forged and fought and died for our liberty from England.

But in theory we go right back to that deliverance from England's bondage. Say, "I'm free."

Get a personal letter from England asking you to pay income taxes, you say, "Tough!" Why? Because England has no control over you.

You didn't forge out your liberty from them. You didn't fight in one single battle to gain freedom from England. No! But we are identified with those who did. Their victory becomes our victory.

●**SLIDE**: Declaration of Independence from the power and control of sin was signed at the cross and resurrection of Christ in 32 AD.

●**SLIDE**: Turn to Romans 6.

This passage lays down the foundation for freedom from sinful behavior. In essence we see here why no Christian need ever sin again.

(Of course no one will reach this lofty estate in this life.)

**THIS MOST DIFFICULT PASSAGE IN ROMANS (IN THE ENTIRE BIBLE?) MAY WELL BE
THE MOST LIBERATING!**

READ ROMANS 6:1-14:

**SLIDE OVERHEAD: AS WE CONTINUE ON OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY WE MAKE FOUR
GREAT SOUL AFFECTING DISCOVERIES:**

1. I have committed sins and offenses against a holy God.
2. Not only have I done evil things, there is a thoroughly evil sin nature within me.
3. While I desire to do good, I continually struggle with doing wrong.
4. Jesus Christ provided for our victory over sin. We never have to sin again.

This outlines the book of Romans.

TWO DISAPPOINTMENTS WITH MOST CHRISTIANS.

●**SLIDE**: DISAPPOINTMENT # 1: "I expected that the new birth would make everything right in my life. I expected that by this inward change my evil nature would be transformed into a good and holy one. I still struggle with sin just as much as before. What is wrong with me? Did I really receive Christ?"

The problem is a misunderstanding of what really happened at our new birth: what is alive and what is not.

●**SLIDE OVERHEAD**: STORY OF SAMSON

Vineyard near Timnah a young lion came out. Killed it and left it by the side of the road.

Passed by later and bees had built a hive in the lion carcass.

Samson, carcass, and bees – JUDGES 14:5-8 – different kind of life – lions don't produce honey.

Riddle for Philistines. Judges 14:14: “Out of the eater comes something to eat. Out of the strong comes something sweet.”

Born again – new life produced – old life dead. Different and distinct; the old is not improved.

READ JOHN 3:6 – “That born of flesh is flesh; that born of spirit is spirit.”

When we are born again new life is produced in us by the Holy Spirit. “We are partakers of the divine nature.”

Mistaken notion by many believers: endless pains are spent trying to improve the dead lion – to morally disinfect the sin nature to make it more bearable to a decent and religious society – but the dead lion is still a dead lion, adorn him as we will.

The old nature is dead.

We look to Christ to grow and empower the new one.

●SLIDE: DISAPPOINTMENT #2: “I know what I ought to do. I know what is right. However: ROMANS 7:18 – “Whenever I want to do good, evil lies close at hand.”

The misunderstanding is that I can do something to empower the victory.

Expert swimmer. Man drowning and thrashing about. “How is it that you, such a powerful swimmer and so well-equipped to save these people, can stand by looking on so calmly?”

“The time is not yet come. I am waiting until he stops struggling.”

Then he came to the rescue.

The same is true for us. We never get out of the second disappointment until we learn that struggling means sinking.

Then and only then will we look for deliverance in Another.

This is ROMANS 7:24-25: “What a wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

God Is Not Expecting Us To Improve Man In The Flesh, Or Looking For Goodness In Him Of Any Kind.

●SLIDE OVERHEAD: Cursing of the fig tree in Mark 11 – “It dried up from its roots.”

What would you think of the disciples trying to find some new way to cultivate and get good fruit from it?

Need to go find fruit from another tree.

Psalm 1 tree is Christ.

●SLIDE OVERHEAD: HOW DOES THIS DELIVERANCE COME ABOUT?

KNOW: Learning from God

COUNT or CALCULATE Reckoning in God

OFFER: Yielding to God.

●SLIDE: **KNOW (Romans 6:1-10):**

- SLIDE: ROMANS 6:3-5: *Or don't you KNOW that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. 5 If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.*

I didn't know that!
Most don't.

Emancipation Proclamation – black slaves – live in south – freed.
January 1, 1863 – filtered down – Juneteenth.

“We cannot grow past what we know.”

- SLIDE: This is our POSITION in Christ! Resurrected to new life.

Everything that belongs to Christ is ours! Everything that is true of Christ is true of us.
Our position in Christ is perfect.

- SLIDE: EPHESIANS 2:6: And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

- SLIDE: COLOSSIANS 2:9-10: For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, 10 and you have been given fullness in Christ...

- SLIDE: EPHESIANS 1:3: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

God declares that all that is true in Christ is now also in us!

Then why do I still sin?

- SLIDE OVERHEAD: Because there is a difference between our position in Christ and our condition on earth.

Our position in Christ is perfect.
Our condition is where we are in our Christian walk.

Show you difference between Position and Condition in life of the Corinthians.

Position in Jesus:

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 1:2: To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ-their Lord and ours:

Condition:

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 1:11: 11 My brothers, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you.

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 5:1: It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: A man has his father's wife. 2 And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have been filled with grief and have put out of your fellowship the man who did this?

- SLIDE: Definition of sanctification – “Sanctification is God’s process of making us on earth (condition) what we already are on Heaven (position).”

Romans 6:1-10 describes how to move our condition more in line with our position in Jesus.

- SLIDE: ROMANS 6:6-7: *For we KNOW that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin- 7 because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.*

Before salvation we were controlled and dominated by the old man, old nature, sin nature. We were slaves to No choice but to sin.

Because the sin nature is crucified, we are now free to choose whether or not to sin.

- SLIDE OVERHEAD: What was crucified? Our Sin Nature (original sin).

We must define the term old self. It manifests as Self – reliance, centeredness, condemnation.

Luke 15:11-24: Parable of Lost Son

Come to the cross and the old self is rendered powerless. We no longer must obey and serve the dead man.

Imagine an unarmed soldier in Vietnam standing helpless before a machine gun which is aimed at his face by a Viet Cong guerrilla.

That was our position before Christ died for us. Our old man had the power and we were the prisoner.

Out of the corner of our eye we see a friend: Friend shoots Viet Cong soldier. He is dead.

This is our present position in Christ. The old man is dead. We don’t have to serve him any longer.

Why would we prop up the gun in his dead hands and obey him any longer?

Without the life of Christ, we cannot help but obey the old man. Now that he is dead, we no longer have to obey.

If a Christian sins, it is only because he or she wants to.

- SLIDE: ROMANS 6:8-10: *Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 For we KNOW that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. 10 The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.*

As we dwell upon our position there will be a drastic change in our condition. Power sin seems to have over us will be broken.

Now we are free to enter into the resurrection life of Christ! HOW?

- SLIDE: **COUNT YOURSELVES (Romans 6:11):**

- SLIDE: ROMANS 6:11: *In the same way, COUNT YOURSELVES DEAD TO SIN BUT ALIVE TO GOD in Christ Jesus.*

- SLIDE: Explain reckoning as an accounting term.

There is a double-reckoning. Dead to sin and alive to God.

My shyness: Set me free!

Groups setting: self condemnation: every body is looking at me.

Be careful, I will probably say something stupid.

Preacher's meeting when I was young: "Better to keep your mouth shut and let every body think you are wise than to open your mouth and prove you are a fool."

I was so intimidated. Manifestation of self-condemnation.

Faith is a cold-blooded decision of the will.

My choice. I can choose to believe with God that my old man is dead and powerless and I can be free for victory – or I can remain miserable in my sin.

Dead man in casket.

No one ever blushes. "Everyone is looking at me. I can't believe this is happening. I look terrible in brown."

Shyness: What do people think? Dead to that.

Go on in and minister in the life and power of Christ.

● **SLIDE: OFFER (Romans 6:12-14):**

● **SLIDE:** ROMANS 6:12-14: *Therefore DO NOT LET SIN REIGN in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. 13 DO NOT OFFER THE PARTS OF YOUR BODY TO SIN, as instruments of wickedness, but RATHER OFFER YOURSELVES TO GOD, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. 14 For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.*

● **SLIDE OVERHEAD:** The battle is on.

1776-1783: *Declaration of Independence signed in 1776.*

Revolutionary War fought until Yorktown in 1783.

The declaration of independence from sin was signed in 32 AD at the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.

Now the battle for freedom begins:

Flesh has not been crucified for us – old man crucified for us.

● **SLIDE:** Galatians 5:24 – Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.

Now we are responsible for putting to death the flesh.

● **SLIDE:** COLOSSIANS 3:1-5: Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you will also appear with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

As we KNOW the facts of our death, burial, and resurrection, and as we COUNT these facts to be true in our experience we will be able to PRESENT our lives to Him for His glory.

VERY PRACTICAL ENDING

Stoplight and beautiful girl crosses street. Tempted to lust.

Before Christ: Old nature didn't give me a choice.

After Christ: "I don't have to do that anymore. I am dead to that. Free to live by the Spirit."

Pray for her.

Tempted to internet porn. Can't stop, addicted. I am dead to this. Instead, pay that same amount of attention to your wife.

Woman hurt by another. Tempted to gossip and tear her down behind her back.

You used to have no real choice. Backbiting was the most natural thing in the world to do.

But, now your old nature is dead. You have a choice.

Refuse to say bad words about them

Instead pray for them.

We don't ever have to sin again.

Let's live like it.

- SLIDE: Galatians 6:14: May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Meditate and Prayer