New Community Bible Study & Teaching "The New Life- Dead To Sin, Alive In Righteousness" Romans 6:1-23 Session 9

(PP)

We've titled our study series after the Book of Romans...

"God's Plan To Move Us From Lost Ones To Saved Ones To Sent Ones"

Structure Of The Book:

Our Outline of the Book

- 1. Introduction & Theme Of Romans (1:1-17),
- 2. The Doctrine of Justification (1:18—5:11),
- **3. The Doctrine Of Sanctification (5:12—8:39),**
- 4. God's Plan & Purpose For Israel (9:1-11:36),
- 5. Living The New Life As A Jesus Follower (12:1-15:13);
- 6. Conclusions & Greetings To Friends (15:14-16:27).

Session 9- Study:

"The New Life- Dead To Sin, Alive In Righteousness" Romans 6:1-23

Introduction & Overview

We're beginning today with a doctrine all of us here are involved in deeply and currently...

- That is.. The sanctification of the believer! Each one!
- Remember Justification Means:
 - It's the work of God where the righteousness of Jesus is reckoned to the sinner, so the sinner is declared by God as righteous (Rom. 4:3; 5:1,9)
 - This **righteousness is not earned** by works.
 - Justification is an instantaneous occurrence triggered by faith in Jesus-results being E-Life.
 - It is based completely and solely upon Jesus' sacrifice on the cross (1 Pet. 2:24) and is received by faith alone (Eph. 2:8-9).
 - Justification is a gift of God (Rom. 6:23).
 - \circ We're justified by faith in Jesus alone (Rom. 5:1).

So Sanctification means:

 Sanctification is the process of being set apart for God's work & being conformed to the image of Jesus.

- Conforming to Jesus involves the work of the person, but it's still God working in the believer to produce more godly character & life in the person who has already been justified (Phil. 2:13).
- Sanctification is not instantaneous because it is not the work of God alone.
- The justified person is actively involved in submitting to God's will, resisting sin, seeking holiness, and working to be more godly (Gal. 5:22-23).
- Where justification comes from outside of us, from God, sanctification comes from God within us by the work of the H.S. in accordance with His Word. God uses the new heart we've obtained in justification to begin making us like His Son!

Notice the 4 areas where Sanctification involvers our participation:

- Submitting to God's will
- \circ Resisting sin
- Seeking *holiness*

• Working to be more godly! (adding muscles to faith) Paul will be speaking to us on these topics today! Last Week...

Paul advanced the justification explanation... to the big showdown... <u>Adam verses Jesus!</u>

- Sin came into the world thru Adam...

- Salvation, grace and peace came thru Jesus Christ! This week... the issues of Sanctification!

Read: Rom. 6:1-23- Read it!!!

1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

- Looking back to Chapter 5...
- Where sin was greatest-*grace* was there to out-do it!

So- Paul asks the logical question:

Should we just not change but keep on sinning...
So God could show how strong His grace really is? No!!!

Or, could there be a sin God's grace couldn't forgive? No again!

But:

We died to sin... by Jesus' death- we participated by faith in what He did

- Now the big question of sanctification is:
 - Will you keep willfully sinning or not?
- This speaks of habitual persistence- keep on sinning in practice!

Now, Paul here is not speaking of the occasional sin we fall into... Every Christian does that from time to time

- Because of our weakness & imperfections of our flesh!

He's speaking of intentional, willful sinning as an established pattern of life!

May it never be! "By No Means"... this is not possible!

- It is not possible for a sinner to be able to live in the sin from which he was delivered out of... by death!

Logic says: the person who died to one kind of life cannot still live in it! Death is a permanent thing! And death & life can't happen at the same time!

- So, something else is going on here... and we're going to get to the bottom if it!!

3 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.

- Baptized here... has the idea of... join with- sharing in and being <u>changed by</u> what happened... to Jesus!

Ken Wuest writes: Baptism is the introduction of a person or thing into a new environment or into a union with something else so as to alter its condition or its relationship to its previous environment or condition.

- We recognize that we have become one with Jesus- we ID with Him in Baptism!
- Salvation is not only God's declaring a sinner as <u>*righteous*</u> but granting him/her a new righteous disposition, or nature!

This new righteousness is not only an earthly reality it is a heavenly one as well!

- Our new life in Jesus is a *divine* life!

- That's why it is not possible for a person who is truly saved to live in the same sinful way in which he lived before being saved!!

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— 7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

- No longer slaves to sin- we were once compelled to sin!
- But now... being united with His death... we can be united with His life, now and for all eternity! That's the connection!

Charles Hodge writes: "There can be no participation in Christ's life without a participation in his death and we cannot enjoy the benefits of His death unless we are partakers of the power of His life. We must be reconciled to God in order to be holy and we cannot be reconciled without becoming holy."

- The old self was crucified with Jesus! It died!

- So sin would not be in *control* anymore! Chain is broken!!!

So, why do Christians still sin?

- Let's look further...

8 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.

- That's all true... He died, we died with Him when we believed in Him by faith!
- We now also live with Him- thru His *resurrection*!
- Dead to sin, alive to God... Jesus' reality!
- But what else?

11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. 13 Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. 14 For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

- Here it is... our part... where we take action or not!
- Because of all Jesus did and experienced...
 - You count yourself *dead to sin* but alive to God in Jesus!

What's that mean? How do I do it? Here it is: (12-13)

- Don't let sin have a stronghold in your life- Say no to it!
- Get specific- don't let any part of your life fall here!
- Don't go looking for sin or promote it- offer yourself to God as His instruments of righteousness!

You'll want to memorize the verse in verse 14: **"For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace."**

 You are not a <u>pawn</u> in the game, you have been given freedom and your own life to manage! - So...manage it for Jesus!

Of course there are those who try to separate <u>conduct</u> from salvation...Paul addresses it!

15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! 16 Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?

- This is what freedom and *independence* looks like
- We're now free to give ourselves to Jesus!
- To obey and follow Him!
- We were not <u>free</u>... when we were slaves to sin!

17 But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. 18 You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

- Obedience from the heart- you now obey a *pattern* of teaching...

You now "think" like a Christian!

- You want to obey the teaching that leads you to follow and love Him!
- This is why the local church experience- is so important!
 O You can't do it alone...

Here you find at a local church like ours:

• A relational life-revolving around godly people.

Sanctification happens in contact with other people!

- A worshipping life- of praise, giving and obedience to Him!
- A teaching life-revolving around teaching from the Bible!
- A serving life-revolving around putting the Bible in to action
- A redemptive life- helping others find Jesus by letting your light shine for Him.

19 I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness.

- Let's amp up our efforts to show off Jesus thru our lives!
- He's now the boss... I don't want to disobey or disappoint the boss!
- Do you look at Jesus as a servant does His master?
- Is righteousness your goal for *conduct and choices* in life?

20 When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. 21 What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death!

- A couple last contrasts... did sin really benefit you?
- Our greatest regrets were sin-filled actions, right?
- Nobody regrets the good things they did... just the bad, right?

22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.

- So now... holiness is not only positional...
- It is now practical! Your life can become conformed over time into the image of Jesus!
- Ultimate physical and spiritual holiness!
- It's His plan for all of us... if we'll play ball!
- The ball is in our court! What do you say?

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

- Sin does not get off scott-free! You reap what you sow!
- All things will be accounted for in Heaven!
- Sin is *rebellion* or disobedience from a Holy God!
- The wages of sin... its earnings... are death!
 - Physical death- separation from physical life!
 - Spiritual death- separations from God forever!
- But God's gift to us... in Jesus is...
 Eternal life! The biggest win of all time!

Conclusion...

- Being dead to sin... habitual rebellion should be gone!
- Alive to righteousness- my new nature wants to follow & love Jesus!

My life changes as I participate in the sanctification process over the rest of my life! My efforts matter!

- There will be resistance from my old nature- still alive in my flesh!
- And there the battle is on!

- Next week... how to live with two natures!!

Next Time- Part 10- Romans 7:1-25... George Deur

7/14/19 **"Living With Two Natures"**

Close and Pray