

The Book of Romans
6:1-14
12/19/2018 Wednesday PM

Introduction

- In **Romans 5:12-21** Paul uses a “just as...so also” comparison.
- He begins the comparison in **v. 12**, but he does not resume and complete the comparison until **vv. 18-19**.
- Adam and the sin and death he brought into the world are in the “just as” clause.
- Christ and the righteousness and life he provides are in the “so also” clause.
- The main point Paul is making can be found in the “so also” clauses.

United with Christ in Death and Resurrection (vv.1-5)

¹What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ²By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We 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.

⁵If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.

- **V. 1** – Paul continues to use the question-and-answer format that he has used throughout the letter.
- In earlier chapters Paul was speaking to Jews, but here Paul begins to speak directly to Christians.
- His purpose is to show that being a believer makes a decisive difference in one’s relationship to sin.
- His question in this verse is stemming from what he was teaching in **5:20**.
- **V.2** – He quickly answers his own question with, “By no means!” Then he states, “We died to sin.”
- **What does it mean that “we died to sin?”**
- It does not mean that we are not tempted by sin or that we are incapable of sinning.
- He really uses the imagery of death for two reasons:
 1. It creates an obvious point of contact with the death of Christ which is an important step in Paul’s argument in vv. 3-4.
 2. It is a powerful image of a decisive shift in state. When someone becomes a Christian, their change of state in relationship to sin is as dramatic as a change from life to death.
- He follows all of this up with another question, “how can we live in it any longer?”
- If we no longer live under the dominion of sin, we should no longer live in sin.
- **Vv.3-5** – The interesting word that Paul uses in these verses is “baptized” which means immersion.
- Some argue Paul is simply referring to people being “immersed” into Christ and his death.
- However Paul’s word choice makes it clear that he is in fact speaking of water baptism here.
- We are joined with Christ when we are baptized as we identify with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.
- Paul is using baptism here to represent our whole conversion experience.
- By being baptized, we are brought into union with Christ and the powerful events of his redemptive work.
- As Paul finishes out **v. 5** he draws a parallel between us being united with Christ in his death, to us being united with him in his resurrection.
- That is the full conversion experience, Christ effectively taking us from death to life. We died because of sin.

The Results of Dying with Christ (vv.6-7)

⁶For 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-- ⁷because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

- **V. 6** - What does the phrase “our old self” represent?
- Many simply say that it is our self pre-salvation. However Paul is probably speaking a little deeper than that.
- Here Paul is more than likely speaking of us as far as us being “in Adam.”
- Remember **Romans 5:12**, “Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned.”
- In v. 6 here, Paul is referring to the “body of sin” being done away with.

- **V. 7** - He ends this paragraph by quoting an ancient proverb, “death severs the hold of sin on a person.”
- The results of dying with Christ is that the “hold of sin” is removed and we are “freed from sin.”
- What we were in Adam died, and we are now in Christ.

The Results of Being Raised with Christ (vv.8-10)

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

- **V. 8** – Dying with Christ directly follows living with him.
- We “live with him” while we are on earth and experience benefits from our walk, however it will not be until Heaven that we truly “live with him” where there is no sin separating us.
- **V. 9** – Here Paul is simply reiterating how death liberates us. Once we die, “death no longer has mastery over” us.
- That was true of Christ and it is certainly true for us as well.
- **V. 10** – Although Jesus was never held under sin’s power in a way that turned him into a sinner, as a result him choosing to be human, he was subject to the power of sin.
 - He was tempted as we are. **Hebrews 2:14-17**
- In that sense, he too needed to “die” to sin’s power.
- By him dying in this way, “he died to sin once for all.” His death totally defeated and satisfied death itself.
- Just like us, the life we live, we live to God. Christ is our ultimate example in that way.

Putting Our New Status into Action (vv.11-14)

¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹²Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. ¹³Do 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. ¹⁴For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

- **V. 11** – Here Paul is reiterating what he has been teaching all along.
- He says, “count yourselves...” This is saying “think of yourselves in this way.”
- **V. 12-13** – He moves into explain what we should do.
 - “Do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.”
 - “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.”
- **V.14** – Paul here is reiterating the point he made in v. 6.
- Sin is not our master, because we are no longer under condemnation of the Mosaic Law, but under God’s grace!
- The Mosaic Law dominates the old regime from which we have been set free in Christ.
- Now we are under the New Covenant ushered in by Jesus in which grace reigns.
- Because of all of this, we should not continue to sin!!

Next Week’s Study

NO SERVICE WEEK OF CHRISTMAS

Romans 6:15-23