



Let's Sin (1)

(Romans 6:1-14)

Romans 5:20-21

²⁰ Now the law came in to increase the trespass, **but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,** ²¹ so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:1

1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?

“Paul’s answer to his critics is that God’s grace not only forgives sins, but **also delivers us from sinning. For grace does more than justify: **it also sanctifies.****

It unites us to Christ (1-14), and initiates us into a new slavery to righteousness (15-23).”

(John Stott)

Relationship between sin and grace

Romans 6:1-2

¹ What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?

² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

“We died to sin”
(What does it mean?)

What it is not:

Paul does not mean that **Christians are no longer responsive to sin.**

What it is:

- It is a change of position (identity).
- No longer “in Adam” but “in Christ”.
- No longer under the power of sin.

See 2 Corinthians 5:17; Colossians 1:13

**“We are no longer sinners
but saints who sometimes sin.”**

“The secret of sanctification is not our present experience or emotions, however meaningful or intense they may be, but rather something that has already happened to us... It is because of what has happened to us that we are now no longer to continue in sin.”

(James M. Boice)

Romans 6:3-5

³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Baptism signifies **our union with Christ**, especially with Christ crucified and risen.

“For by faith inwardly and baptism outwardly we have been united with Christ in his death and resurrection, and have thus come to share in their blessings.”

(John Stott)

Baptism signifies **our union with Christ**, especially with Christ crucified and risen.

What is true of Jesus is true of us who are united to Him through faith.

Romans 6:6-7

⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that **the body of sin might be brought to nothing**, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin.

“body of sin” – inclinations to sin

Romans 6:8-10

⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that **we will also live with him.**

⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but **the life he lives he lives to God.**

We can say no to sin when we are joined to Christ and share in the power of His resurrection.

Romans 6:11

11 So you also must **consider** yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The word he uses is a word used in bookkeeping, in calculating accounts, in working out profit and loss figures. Now of course when you do a calculation you get an answer which, in a sense, didn't exist before. But in another sense all that the calculation does is to make you aware of what in fact was true all along.

It doesn't create a new reality. Until you add up the money in the till, you don't know how much your day's takings were worth. But adding it up doesn't make the day's takings a penny larger or smaller than they already are.

Paul is telling us to do the sums, to add up, to work out the calculation... faith at this point consists, not of shutting one's eyes and trying to believe the impossible, but opening one's eyes to the reality of Jesus and his representative death and resurrection

and to the reality of one's own standing as a baptized and believing member of Jesus' people, those who are 'in the Messiah.' That is the challenge of verse **11. We need to remember who we really are, so that we can act accordingly.**

(N. T. Wright)

**We are to become who we are in Christ:
dead to sin and alive to God.**

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HOW?

**It is by what we do with our bodies – by
considering the various parts of our
bodies and their potential for both
holiness and sinfulness.**

Romans 6:12-14

12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions.

13 Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

- **What do you feed your mind on a daily basis?**
- **What do you receive daily through your eyes and ears?**
- **What are the things that come out of your mouth?**
- **What do you do with your hands and your feet?**