

**"The Doctrine of Sanctification"**

**Romans 5:12-8:13**

**Part 6**

**Introduction:** Tonight, as we return to our study in the book of Romans we are again returning to one of the most important sections in the Word of God. In the section we are in Paul is teaching us the key to living the victorious Christian life. In Romans 5:12-21 Paul presented the Explanation of Sanctification. It was in those verses that Paul answered a question that would have been asked by his critics, "How can what one man did on the cross affect so many people?" This question would have been asked because of the Doctrine of Justification in which Paul taught us that we are justified not by the works of the Law and not by any good works of our own, but we are justified by the finished work of Jesus Christ upon the cross. He taught us that when we place our faith in what Jesus did for us God then removes our sin from our account and imputes to us His own righteousness. So, to show how what one man did can affect so many people Paul then pointed to Adam to show that through the disobedience of Adam every person has inherited the sin nature because we were all in Adam when he sinned in the Garden. His one act in the Garden poisoned the entire human race. We all became sinners because of one man's act. Paul then went on to apply this principle to the believer and explained that in Christ we have:

1. An abundance of grace.
2. The righteousness of God imputed to our account.
3. Power over sin in our lives.

Paul went on to explain that God's grace is greater than all our sin and in Christ grace reigns through righteousness unto eternal life. In Adam sin reigns unto death but in Christ grace reigns unto eternal life.

**Romans 5:20-21**

*<sup>20</sup> Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:*

*<sup>21</sup> That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.*

This all brought to Paul's mind the teaching of the Antinomians. These were a group of false teachers who saw grace as a license to sin. These people taught that being under grace they could do whatever they wanted to do. They could live in sin if they chose to

because their sin would just cause God's grace to abound. So, as we moved into Romans 6 Paul addressed the false teaching of the Antinomians.

**Notice Romans 6:1-2**

Paul tells his readers that we as believers can no longer live IN SIN because we are now dead to sin. The point he is making here, which we discussed last week is that when a person is TRULY saved it is not possible for them to return to the way they lived before salvation. In other words when we were saved we died to sin, so it is impossible to be alive to something that we have died to. When we were saved we were saved FROM sin and we were saved to RIGHTEOUSNESS. It is not possible for the believer to have the same relationship with the sin nature that he or she once had in Adam because we are no longer in Adam. We are now in Christ. John makes this Truth very clear in 1 John.

**1 John 3:2-9**

<sup>2</sup> *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

<sup>3</sup> *And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.*

<sup>4</sup> *Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*

<sup>5</sup> *And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.*

<sup>6</sup> *Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.*

<sup>7</sup> *Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.*

<sup>8</sup> *He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.*

<sup>9</sup> *Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.*

Jesus Christ came to take away our sins. That statement has a twofold meaning. He came to take sin away from our account and impute to us His own righteousness and He came to take sin out of our life. We therefore were saved FROM sin. That is why John tells us that a TRUE believer will NOT continue in a life of sin. When we were saved God gave to us His Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit within us desires righteousness and the new nature within

the believer hates sin. God started within us a work when we were saved and anyone who claims they can live in sin as a believer is simply manifesting that they were never saved.

### Philippians 1:6

*<sup>6</sup> Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*

Let me make it very plain so that we can get our minds wrapped around this Truth. When a person is TRULY saved God puts the heart of Jesus Christ in that person. Before salvation we had the heart of Adam but now we have the heart of Jesus Christ and that is why it is no longer possible to have the same relationship with the sin nature. We still have the sin nature and we still sin, but we can no longer live in sin and enjoy it as we did when we were unsaved. When a believer falls or steps into sin they will be chastened by God and they will be miserable until they repent and come back to fellowship with the Lord.

Notice the words of Mattoon:

*"Death to sin is separation from its power, not extinction. When a person is born again, he has a new power to say "No" to sin, but many times will not use his new power. We are under new management "in Christ." The sin nature that once ruled over us before our salvation no longer has power or authority to dictate our lives unless we give that old nature power and consent to its control. Yes, our sin nature is still within us. There is a difference, however, now that we are saved. We have a choice in the matter in doing that which is right or wrong. We have power to say "No" to wrong. For us to continue in habitual, persistent sin, as we were before we were saved, would mock the grace of God and what He did for us. It would be like rescuing a prisoner of war from an enemy prison camp, and then the freed prisoner returns to the prison from which he was delivered to live in bondage. Such an action would mock those who rescued him. This is what the Christian does to God when he lives in wickedness. Shall we continue in sin? You cannot do this. You are under new management. You are united in Christ. You have a new nature that loves righteousness and hates sin. An English earl visited the Islands. Being an infidel, he critically remarked to the elderly chief, "You're a great leader, but it's a pity you've been taken in by those foreign missionaries. They only want to get rich through you. No one believes the Bible anymore. People are tired of the threadbare story of Christ dying on the cross for the sins of mankind. They know better now. I'm sorry you have been so foolish to accept their story." The old chiefs' eyes flashed like a saber in the sun as he answered, "See that great rock over there? On it we smashed the heads of our victims. Notice the furnace next to it? In that oven we formerly roasted the bodies of our enemies. If it hadn't been for those foreign missionaries that you disdain and the love of Jesus Christ that changed us from man-craving cannibals to Christians, you would never*

*leave this place alive. You better thank the Lord for the Gospel; otherwise we would be feasting on you.*

***If it were not for the Bible,  
you would now be our supper!"***

This now brings us to where we are in our study tonight.

**I. The Illustration of Sanctification**  
**Romans 6:1-8:1**  
**Part 2**

Paul is now going to explain how it is that we died to sin.

**Notice Romans 6:3**

Here is a very important verse which we need to grasp. Paul tells us here that as many as were baptized into Christ have been baptized into His death. Now let me begin by saying that the baptism spoken of here is NOT water baptism. This is the baptism by the Holy Spirit that takes place the moment a person is saved.

**1 Corinthians 12:12-14**

<sup>12</sup> *For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.*

<sup>13</sup> **For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body**, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> *For the body is not one member, but many.*

**Galatians 3:26-28**

<sup>26</sup> *For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.*

<sup>27</sup> *For as many of you as **have been baptized into Christ** have put on Christ.*

<sup>28</sup> *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.*

The moment a person is saved they are "PLACED INTO"/baptized into the body of Jesus Christ.

This is NOT water baptism, but the physical act of water baptism is a picture of what has taken place in the life of the believer. When we baptize we place the person over backward into the water as a picture of the death and burial of Christ and when we bring

them up out of the water we are picturing the resurrection of Jesus Christ. When a believer steps up to be baptized they are making a public statement that they are identifying with Jesus Christ and the baptism is a picture of what happen to the believer when they were saved. In Christ they died with Him and in Christ they were resurrected with Him to a new life. While water baptism is very important for it is the first step in obedience after salvation, it has nothing to do with saving us. Water baptism only makes us wet it does not take away our sins. There is a verse in Acts that confuses many people concerning baptism and salvation.

### **Acts 2:38**

*<sup>38</sup> Then Peter said unto them, Repent, **and be baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

Many believe that Peter is teaching that baptism is required for salvation. If that were the case, then salvation would not be by grace through faith alone and so what Paul taught us in Romans concerning justification would not be accurate. The thought behind Peter's statement here must be understood in context with his day. To identify with Jesus Christ in Peter's day was costly. Jesus and His followers were hated. So, for someone to step out and be baptized was proof their faith was real and that they were Truly saved. So, Peter is calling on these people to repent, accept Jesus Christ as Savior and then prove their faith was real by identifying with Christ in baptism.

### **Notice Romans 6:3 again.**

Now since we were baptized into Jesus at the moment of salvation then we were also baptized into His death at the same time. The moment that a person is saved the death of Jesus Christ upon the cross is applied to his or her life and it is at the moment of salvation that we died to sin. Notice the words of Stedman on this thought:

*"The baptism that is mentioned here is not water baptism. It is the baptism of the Spirit, by which we were made part of the body of Christ. Water baptism is a sign of that, but the essential thing here is the baptism of the Spirit. The way some people read their Bibles, I am reminded of the fellows that go around with witching wands, looking for water. Have you heard of these? They take willow sticks and go around looking for water -- and wherever water is, the stick turns down. {Some} people read their Bibles that way. They go through it, and, wherever it mentions baptism, down goes the stick -- indicating water. Wherever it reads "baptism," they find water. But, this isn't water baptism. This is the baptism of the Holy Spirit, of which water baptism is a symbol. This baptism united me to Christ, and, the day that I believed in Jesus Christ, God cut off this old life, and crucified it with Christ, and buried it with him, and declared that it no longer had any right to live in his sight. **Now get that! This is tremendously important. That was the day I died:** The*

day that I believed in Jesus Christ, God made this real to me, and the reason that he put it to death was because it had absolutely no power in it to do good."

When Jesus died on the cross He died for our sins. But there is more to it than that. He not only took upon Him our sinful acts, but He also took upon Himself the PRINCIPLE of sin or we could say, THE SIN NATURE.

**Isaiah 53:6**

<sup>6</sup> *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

**2 Corinthians 5:21**

<sup>21</sup> *For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*

Now I want you to grasp what I am about to say, When Jesus died on the cross the PRINCIPLE of sin was crucified with Him. So, when I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior and His death was applied to me and that means my sin nature was crucified with Him.

**Romans 6:6**

<sup>6</sup> *Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.*

**Notice Romans 6:4**

We were buried with Christ by baptism. That is again referring to the baptism of the Holy Spirit when we were saved when He placed us into the body of Jesus Christ. So, because we are IN CHRIST as believers His death, burial and resurrection are applied to our lives. Therefore, IN CHRIST our sin nature was crucified, IN CHRIST we have been buried with Him and IN CHRIST we have been resurrected to a new life and that NEW LIFE is a life in which the very power that brought Jesus out of the grave now lives within each of us and the power of the sin nature has been made powerless.

Let me show you what Paul said in writing to the Galatians.

**Galatians 2:20**

<sup>20</sup> *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

Let us notice what Paul wrote in Colossians:

**Colossians 2:10-14**

<sup>10</sup> *And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:*

<sup>11</sup> *In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:*

(Circumcision is the cutting away of the flesh or we could say a separation of the flesh. That is what happened when we were baptized into Christ. We were circumcised in that the flesh/sin nature was cut away meaning that we were separated from the power of the flesh.)

<sup>12</sup> *Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.*

<sup>13</sup> *And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;*

<sup>14</sup> *Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;*

**Conclusion:**

**Notice Romans 6:4 again.**

Because we have been crucified with Christ, buried with Christ and resurrected with Christ we now have the power to live a life that is separated from sin. We are expected now to walk in newness of life. We now have the power to live a life of righteousness because we are in Christ.

**2 Peter 1:3-4**

<sup>3</sup> *According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:*

<sup>4</sup> *Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*