

**"The Doctrine of Sanctification"****Romans 5:12-8:13****Part 10**

**Introduction:** Tonight, we are continuing our study of Romans 6 where we are looking closely at the teaching of the Apostle Paul concerning the Doctrine of Sanctification. It is in Paul's teaching that we are learning how the believer can live victoriously over the temptation of sin. From the day of our salvation we have had within us a battle between the two natures of the believer. When we were born the first time we were born with an Adamic nature which came from Adam. When we were born again we were then given a Divine nature. When we received the Divine nature the Sin nature was not removed so within us there is this battle between the two natures. The Adamic/sin nature despises anything that has spiritual value and the Divine nature/Holy Spirit longs for that which has spiritual value. God has given to us everything we need to have victory over the lusts and the desires of the Adamic/sin nature.

We see a picture of this battle in Genesis 25.

**Genesis 25:21-26**

*<sup>21</sup> And Isaac intreated the LORD for his wife, because she was barren: and the LORD was intreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived.*

*<sup>22</sup> And the children struggled together within her; and she said, If it be so, why am I thus? And she went to enquire of the LORD.*

*<sup>23</sup> And the LORD said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger.*

*<sup>24</sup> And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb.*

*<sup>25</sup> And the first came out red, all over like an hairy garment; and they called his name Esau.*

*<sup>26</sup> And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob: and Isaac was threescore years old when she bare them.*

When Rebekah was pregnant with Jacob and Esau God made an announcement that was very important. He said the ELDER was to serve the YOUNGER. This was not normal but there was a reason for this. These two boys were a picture of the two natures within the

believer and it is God's will that the ELDER/SIN NATURE was to submit to the authority of the YOUNGER/DIVINE NATURE.

Now in Romans 6 Paul has been teaching us about how God has made it possible for you and me to have victory over the sin nature. The very day we were saved we were baptized into the body of Jesus Christ and it was also at that very time the cross of Jesus Christ was applied to our lives and we died to sin. From that day forward our relationship with the sin nature has never been the same. We still have the sin nature but because we have died to the sin nature it is now impossible for the believer to go back and live like he or she did before salvation.

Now the sin nature can only be defeated with the cross so as we face the temptations of sin in our lives it is our responsibility when we are tempted to set between us and the temptation the cross of Jesus Christ. We now have the ability to reject sin and now we are to reckon on the Truths which Paul has recorded within this section.

### **Notice Romans 6:11-12**

Last week I explained that it is so important that we see ourselves as crucified with Christ and that we learn to set between us and temptation the cross of Jesus Christ. This must become the believer's response as we face the temptations of this life.

### **I. The Illustration of Sanctification**

#### **Romans 6:1-8:1**

#### **Part 6**

### **Notice Romans 6:12-13**

Because we have been given all we need to live Godly lives God can command us to not allow sin to reign in our bodies and He can command us to yield our bodies and members to be instruments that are used to glorify Him. We must understand that while God has provided the victory in Jesus Christ this does not mean the sin nature will just lay down and give up. No, he will continue to strive to be the Monarch within us that controls our thoughts, motives and our actions. Let me show you the Words which God spoke to Cain.

### **Genesis 4:3-8**

<sup>3</sup> And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.

<sup>4</sup> And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

<sup>5</sup> But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

<sup>6</sup> And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

<sup>7</sup> If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

<sup>8</sup> And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

Cain was warned that sin desired to rule over him. The idea here is that sin was like a crouching lion waiting to pounce. Cain rejected God's offer and sin did reign over him and as the Monarch in his life it led him to kill his own brother and led him on a path away from God where he eventually died in his sins.

The point for us to grasp in all of this is, the sin nature longs to reign in our lives and the battle with sin can be very difficult at times. It can become very intense and so there are two points that I reminded you of last week:

1. **We must never make any provisions for the flesh.**

#### **1 Corinthians 10:12**

<sup>12</sup> Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

2. **We must not make any excuses for the flesh.**

The person we used to be before salvation is dead. He was crucified. I may come from a family where certain weaknesses prevailed in my mother and father and grandparents but if I am saved the power of those weaknesses was stripped away at the cross.

#### **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.

Now that we are in Christ and we are equipped with all we need for living Godly lives then we are to live in a way that glorifies and honors God.

#### **Notice Romans 6:13 again.**

Our bodies are to be given over to the Lord. The phrase, "Neither yield ye your members as instruments unto sin" is in the present tense. It could read, "Stop continually yielding to the sin nature and allowing him to have power over you!" The word "YIELD" has the idea of surrendering your rights and power over to another.

In this verse God is calling not for dedication but He is calling for sacrifice.

**Romans 12:1**

*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

It is only when we give ourselves over to God that we can claim the words of Paul in Philippians 1.

**Philippians 1:20-21**

<sup>20</sup> *According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.*

<sup>21</sup> *For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

When people meet us, they should be able to see signs of Jesus' life within us. Let me share with you a story about Yellowstone National Park.

**Look A Little Closer**

*A young lady was visiting Yellowstone National Park, a place noted for its beauty and grandeur. But one part of the park told a different story.*

*She looked out over one huge expanse of land and at first saw nothing but death. The scars of a forest fire were evident as soot-covered tree trunks, burned free of their branches, marked the landscape. It was a sad and ugly scene!*

*Then she took a closer look. She saw that death did not dominate the scene after all. On the ground she could see the beginnings of new life. Small trees were sprouting up. Grasses were growing and a thick undergrowth was beginning to take hold in the once scorched and barren land. New life had taken root.*

*Sometimes we make the same mistake with new Christians. When we look at them, we're unable to shake the old image of the way they were prior to new life in Christ. We focus on the residue of what was there before they met Him. But when we get to know them, we see life. We see the spiritual growth they are experiencing.*

*When we look at other Christians, let's not dwell on the burned-out stumps of their former life. Instead, let's celebrate and affirm the exciting new growth in their lives.*

As I read this story I am again reminded that others may remember what we used to be but as they spend time around us they should see the signs of new growth that comes because of the life of Jesus living within us. The more we are surrendered over to the Lord the more of Jesus they will see in us. This requires a daily dying to self.

**1 Corinthians 15:31b**

*...I die daily.*

To live so that others can see Jesus in us is to sometimes die a thousand deaths a day. The old nature desires to sit upon the throne in our heart and so we must place the cross between us and the temptations daily and multiple times per day. We must refuse to let the sin nature reign.

**Notice Romans 6:14**

Paul makes it very clear in this verse that sin's power over us has been broken. Then he states that we are not under the Law, but we are under grace. What is he saying here and why does he bring the Law into this discussion?

The Law cannot save anyone from sin. The Law was never given as a means of salvation, but the Law was given so that man would see his true sinfulness.

**Romans 3:19-20**

*<sup>19</sup> Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.*

*<sup>20</sup> Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*

The Law commands, it demands, it condemns, and it kills.

**2 Corinthians 3:6**

*<sup>6</sup> Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.*

The "letter" here refers to the Law. The Law has been said to be the greatest mass murderer of all times. For when we read the Law we see how guilty we are, and we see that we were worthy of death.

**Notice Romans 6:14 again.**

We are not under the Law, but we are under grace. It is by grace that we are given life and the power to live victoriously over sin.

**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.

We are under grace and it is grace that provides victory and it is grace that keeps us saved when we fall, and it is grace that will reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ.

In Jesus Christ we have liberty and freedom.

**Galatians 2:4**

<sup>4</sup> And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage:

The false teachers who had made their way into the church at Galatia desired to put the believers under the Law by teaching that circumcision was required for salvation. This teaching would have robbed them of their liberty and placed them in bondage for to be under the Law required the keeping of the entire Law. Let me show you the words of encouragement that Paul wrote to them.

**Galatians 5:1**

Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

*Do this and live, the law commands,  
But gives me neither feet nor hands.  
A better word the gospel brings,  
It bids me fly, and gives me wings.*

In Christ we are free, but we must never use our liberty as an occasion to satisfy the flesh.

**Galatians 5:13**

<sup>13</sup> For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

Notice the words of Jamieson:

The force of this glorious assurance (not under law but under grace) can only be felt by observing the grounds on which it rests. To be **under the law** is, first, to be under its claim to entire obedience; and so, next under its curse for the breach of these. And as all power to obey can reach the sinner only through Grace, of which the law knows nothing, it follows that to be **under the law** is, finally, to be shut up under an inability to keep it, and consequently to be the helpless slave of sin.

On the other hand, to be **under grace**, is to be under the glorious canopy and saving effects of that **grace which reigns through righteousness unto eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord**. The curse of the law has been completely lifted from off them; they are made **the righteousness of God in Him**; and they are **alive unto God through Jesus Christ**. So that, as when they were **under the law**, Sin could not but have dominion over them, so now that they are **under grace**, Sin cannot but be subdued under them. If before, Sin resistlessly triumphed, Grace will now be more than conqueror.

#### Conclusion:

I will leave you with an interesting chart that compares Law and grace.

LAW	GRACE
What we must do	What God has done
Sets Forth What man ought to be	Exhibits what God is
I do something for God	God does something for me
Works of the flesh	Finished work of Christ
Man's works	God's Work in Men
Trying to measure up to God's perfect standard	God placing me <u>in Christ</u> Who alone meets God's standard
Breeds Self Righteousness	Breeds Humility
All credit to self	All credit to God

<i>Bondage/Enslavement: I cannot keep the law</i>	<i>Deliverance/Freedom God can, and Christ did</i>
<i>God demands life and love ("THOU SHALT... THOU SHALT NOT")</i>	<i>God provides life and love ("CHRIST LIVETH IN ME")</i>