

Prayer:

Slide # 1
Romans

Theme: The Righteousness of God – The Gospel of God

Outline:

- **Prologue:** 1:1-17
- **Doctrinal:** 1:18-8:39

God's holiness – man's sinfulness – 1:18-3:20

Justification by grace through faith – 3:21-5:21

Sanctification of the believer – 6:1-8:39

- **Dispensational:** 9:1-11:36 (The place of Israel and the church)
- **Practical:** 12:1-15:33 (Duties and privileges of the believer)
- **Epilogue:** 16:1-27

Romans presents the most systematic presentation of the gospel found in the Bible. After an introductory prologue Paul begins with the issue of sin. He systematically shows that all are under the condemnation of sin. His next major theme is “justification by faith”. Here he presents two great points. Number one is that the object of our faith is the Lord Jesus Christ. Number two, is that we are justified by faith ALONE – just like Abraham.

Building on this Paul emphasizes that the whole of humanity is categorized by solidarity or union. Because of our solidarity with Adam we share in his sin and death. When we are born again through faith in Christ we then enter into solidarity with Christ and share in his righteousness and life.

Slide # 2

NATURAL Solidarity with Adam...

- **Through one** man sin entered...and death.. 5:12
- **By one** man's offense, many died...5:15
- **Through one** who sinned. – 5:16
- Judgment which came **from one** offense...5:16
- **By the one** man's offense death reigned... 5:17

- **Through one** man's offense judgment came to all...5:18
- **By one** man's disobedience many were made sinners...5:19

Slide # 3

Solidarity with Christ on the basis of FAITH...

- The grace of God and the gift by the grace **of one** Man, Jesus Christ... 5:15
- Those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life **through the One**, Jesus Christ. – 5:17
- **Through one** Man's righteousness act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. – 5:18
- **By one** Man's obedience many will be made righteous. – 5:19
- Grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life **through Jesus Christ our Lord.** – 5:21

Could the flow of Paul's through be any more clear? The whole big idea is that of SOLIDARITY/UNION/IDENTIFICATION. The SOLIDARITY with Adam is contrasted with the SOLIDARITY the believer now has in Christ. You have to be a scholar to miss this!! And many do!

The MAJOR theme of solidarity developed in chapter 5 carries through to chapter 6. There were no chapter divisions when Paul wrote the letter. The flow of thought continues from chapter 5 to chapter 6.

Paul at great length in Romans 3-5 has developed the reality of justification by faith ALONE. We are not made right with God on the basis of any works that we do. We are saved by faith alone just like Abraham. The sole single thing Abraham did is BELIEVE in the Lord.

Slide # 4

Romans 4:3 (NKJV)

3 For what does the Scripture say? **"Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."**

Nail that down and it will keep from much heretical error! In Romans 4:11 Paul dogmatically states that Abraham is ***"the father of all those who believe"***. In Romans 4:16 he plainly says that justification is ***"of faith that it might be according to grace...to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all"***.

And then just to make sure we get it for double sure Paul says this:

Slide # 5

Romans 4:4–5 (NKJV)

4 Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.

5 But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,

Works are anything we do including religious rituals such as sacraments or baptism. Anything done physically is a work! Faith is a matter of the heart! The person who does not depend on anything they do, but rather puts their faith in Jesus ALONE to save them -this is the person who has saving faith.

What I am saying is all these people who claim to believe in Jesus and yet add baptism or anything else are not really saved. Those churches that teach baptism is necessary for salvation are all teaching another gospel and they should all be shut down – every last one of them.

If you think that is too hard, then hear what Paul says about those who teach another gospel.

Slide # 6

Galatians 1:8–9 (NKJV)

8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

And that brings us to Romans 6. Having established our solidarity with Christ based on FAITH ALONE we now come to Romans 6. Paul here is NOT saying how we come to have a relationship with Christ. He has already established that as seen in Romans 3, 4, and 5. Now in chapter 6 he is emphasizing the FACT of our solidarity with Christ which we entered into at the moment of saving faith and what that now means in terms of Christian living.

And Paul is making the case that this relationship of solidarity that we now have with Christ has forever changed our lives. It has forever changed our relationship with sin and death.

In answer to the question: ***“Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?”*** Paul emphatically answers, “Certainly not!” And the reason is that our solidarity with Christ has rendered us dead to sin. And then building on the solidarity theme (already established in chapter 5) he says in Romans 6:3, ***“do you now know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus, were baptized into His death?”***

Paul is not talking about water baptism here. The whole surrounding context is dealing with our spiritual relationship with Christ based on faith. We are now in union with Christ. The word baptize simply means IDENTIFICATION. We are now identified spiritually with Christ. We are now in spiritual union with Him. There is NO water in Romans 6:3. Note it plainly says, ***“baptized into Christ Jesus...baptized into His death”***. This is a spiritual reality established at the moment of saving faith.

Just as our union with Adam affected our lives, so now our union with Christ affects our lives. That really is Paul’s point all through this whole context. A water ritual does not establish relationship with God. Faith does, and then water baptism is just a testimony to it. It is an important testimony but it is FAITH alone that brings justification and reconciliation with God.

Slide # 7

1 Corinthians 1:17 (NKJV)

17 For Christ did not send me to baptize [that is one thing], but to preach the gospel [that is something else], not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.

Romans 1:16 (NKJV)

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

- Baptism is something that is outwardly done (a work) while the gospel is the message of what Christ has done that is believed. We are saved by FAITH ALONE and not by WORKS (Eph. 2:8-9).

Having established the FACT of the believer’s solidarity with Christ on the basis of faith alone Paul is now developing the position that it is absurd that a believer continue to live in sin after they are saved. Paul’s teaching here blasts to smithereens hyper-grace teachings that say grace gives a license to sin; easy believism that says faith doesn’t necessarily change your life, and antinomianism that says we are no longer any form of law whatsoever, when in fact we are now under the law of Christ – which is the law of love.

Paul emphasizes that as believers we have been united spiritually in the likeness of Christ's death and just as surely it follows that we shall be united together in the likeness of His resurrection. And based on that reality Paul now continues his thought now in Romans 6:6.

Romans 6:6–10 (NKJV)

6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

Romans 3, 4, and 5 deals with JUSTIFICATION – being declared right with God on the basis of FAITH alone. Romans 6 follows up by dealing with SANCTIFICATION – how we should then live. Sanctification means “to be set apart”. Based on our faith relationship with God we should now live a set apart life. And here in Romans 6 Paul tells us WHY and HOW.

Living the Christian life is a matter of KNOWING. Growing and knowing go together. Some people who are Christians never seem to grow up. One KEY reason is because they are “stunted” in their knowledge.

Slide # 8

2 Peter 3:18 (NKJV)

18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.

As newborn Christians we are righteous before God on the basis of faith alone. But then we need to be taught how to walk – how to live for God. This involves a process. A little baby needs to learn to crawl, then walk, then run. And the same is true spiritually. Growth is not just automatic.

There are things you need to KNOW in order to grow and live properly. Paul mentions 3 interrelated things here in verse 6 related to KNOWING.

First, we need to KNOW “***that our old man was crucified with Him***” – that is Christ. Again, this is a development of the solidarity theme – our union/identification -our being joined to Christ.

Our old man is our old identify that we had before salvation. Our old man is who we were in Adam. This is the B.C. – the Before Christ person.

This old man – who we were in Adam before salvation at the moment of faith “was crucified with” Christ. The old man is ourselves in union with Adam. The new man is ourselves in union with Christ. Note he is not merely talking about a “nature” such as “the sin nature” because the entire person – the entire “old man” is said to be crucified with Christ. Thus, he is talking about the person we were in union with Adam under the mastery of sin.

Note the OLD man never changes. There is no hope for the old man. He will never improve. He will never reform. The old man cannot be transformed – no matter how much self-help you give him or how many steps towards improvement he tries to make. The old man always remains fallen and corrupt.

You can teach the flesh to behave to a point, but real spiritual change never happens to the old man. The case is so bad there must be a DEATH. The old man must DIE!

Note this co-crucifixion with Christ is a PAST reality. **“Was crucified”** means it is done – it is finished and completed. In conversion you are immediately identified with a 2000-year old reality – namely the cross of Christ. Immediately you are identified with and find solidarity with the cross of Christ.

It is NOT something you do! It is not a command to be obeyed! It is something that God has done at the moment of saving faith. This is simply a FACT to be believed. You do not need to deal with the old man – for God has already killed him at the cross. Note the connection between “died to sin” and “baptized into His death” in Romans 6:2-3. This is God’s doing and it is a spiritual reality!

Those who try and overcome the old man – never win! Only God can change our spiritual status from death to life. Only God can release us from the bondage of sin and death – and He does this through the cross which is applied by faith.

In Romans 6:6 we need to distinguish the difference between our POSITION of being “in Christ” and our EXPERIENCE. This verse is not about our EXPERIENCE. The old man crucified is a FACT of our position, not of our actual experience.

A pastor was visiting the holy land and indicated to the guide that this was his first time ever visiting Israel. As they went to the traditional site of Mount Calvary where Jesus may have been crucified, the guide asked if anyone had ever been here before? The pastor raised his hand. The guide said, *“Well, how can this be seeing you have never been to Israel before?”*

The pastor shared, *“I was here 2000 years ago for when Jesus died, I was crucified with Him.”* Spiritually, speaking that is true as taught by Paul here in Romans 6. And it is true for every believer in Christ.

The old man in the spiritual struggle of life seems to be very much alive, but here is the point - we cannot go merely by our feelings or our experience. We must go by what God says! We must go by the facts of God’s Word – not our feelings!

We must go by FAITH! This is the proper place for **“name it and claim it”** because it is based on God’s Word. This is where the walk of FAITH comes in.

Slide # 9

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)

20 I have been crucified with Christ [**reality**]; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith [**the KEY**] in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

These words [our old man was crucified with Him] are addressed to faith, to faith only. To reason, they are foolishness. But ah, what stormy seas has faith walked over! What mountains has faith cast into the sea! How many impossible things has faith done!

– **William Newell**

Slide # 10

Colossians 3:9–10 (NKJV)

9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,

10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

Note Paul is not commanding anything here in Colossians but simply recounting spiritual FACTS. As seen in Romans 6:6 the old man has been put off through co-crucifixion with Christ. It is an established reality!

But now consider the language of Ephesians 4:22-24.

Slide # 11

Ephesians 4:22–24 (NKJV)

22 that **you put off**, concerning your former conduct, **the old man** which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,
23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,
24 and that **you put on the new man** which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Here in Ephesians 4 we are commanded to do something; namely to put off the old man and to put on the new man. These ARE commands. But what are we to make of this – didn't Col. 3 say this is already done?

Note this distinction. Colossians 3:9-10 sets forth the FACT; while Ephesians 4:22-24 appeals to FAITH! *"In Ephesians, we are told to do in faith what our God has already done in fact!"* (George Zeller) The established spiritual FACTS are in place, but we must now learn to WALK by FAITH and consider it to be so.

We were crucified with Christ to the end ***"that the body of sin might be done away with"***. The body itself is neutral and is not sinful! However, the body is the instrument that sin uses to do its thing. In our unsaved condition the ***"body of sin"*** refers to the body as the instrument that carried out sins orders. The idea here is "the body controlled by sin".

However, our union with Christ's death has altered our relationship with sin. This is the answer to verse 1 – ***"Shall we continue in sin?"*** This reality of being crucified with Christ is to now have a direct bearing on our behavior!

The body is still unredeemed as it awaits the day of redemption as noted in Romans 8:23. As such the body is vulnerable to being used by sin. It is still subject to corruption, disease, decay, sin, and death.

"Done away" (Gk. katargeo) means "rendered inoperative" or "rendered ineffective". Because of Christ's work on the cross and our union with Him SIN no longer has ruling power over us. It still wants to make us feel like it does. But it is not true. We no longer have to obey it – and by the power of the Spirit as we walk in the Spirit we can now live in obedience.

The propensity for sin to have its way in our body has now been rendered inoperative to the end ***"that we should no longer be slaves of sin."*** Sin is no longer our master! It no longer has POWER over us! We are no longer in bondage to sin! Things have changed! We no longer have to sin! We may choose to sin, but we don't have to. We need to KNOW this so that we can live accordingly!

It is important to note that when a person is saved their whole identity is now found in Christ and that Christ's victory over sin includes power over sins ruling power. No longer are we slaves to sin!

It is also important to note that although we are **“dead to sin”** yet we still have the flesh (sometimes called the old sin nature). We are freed from sin as our master and yet the flesh constantly cries out for gratification.

Thus, Christians are conflicted people. We are freed from the power of sin and yet we still know the constant battle with temptation. In a very real sense Christians are constantly faced with a CHOICE between yielding to the Spirit and yielding to sin.

But the point here is that we don't have to yield to sin. It is no longer our master. It can't tell us what to do. We don't have to listen to it – although it seeks to influence us constantly. Paul in Romans 7 deals at length with the ongoing struggle with indwelling sin (Rom. 7:17).

Imagine having a boss who is a tyrant. He runs your life. He is constantly calling you on the phone and demanding you do this or that. But then one day you get a different job and you have a new boss. Now suppose the old boss continues to call you and demand that you do this or that. You are no longer under any obligation to the old boss. You can simply hang up! You are “dead” to him!

That is how it is with sin. It no longer has any authority to run our life! Hang up on it already. The body no longer is at sin's disposal. Its power over the body has been rendered inoperative. Its mastery is broken!

7 For he who has died has been freed from sin.

The word “freed” is literally **“justified”** (Gk. dikaioo) but in context also has the nuance of **“delivered from”**. Christ's death for sin is now counted as my death for sin. Christ's victory over sin has freed me from both the penalty and the power of sin.

Death ends all claims. If a slave dies his master no longer has any control over him. He is now out of the reach of his master. Because of our death union with Christ sin no longer has any claim on us. We are now dead to it! We are under no obligation to obey the dictates of our sinful nature.

Again and again, Paul comes back to the idea of spiritual union with Christ in His death and how that has affected our whole relationship with sin.

Slide # 12***OUR IDENTIFICATION WITH CHRIST'S DEATH***

- v. 2 – died to sin
- v. 3 – baptized [identified] into His death
- v. 4 – buried with Him through baptism into death
- v. 5 united together in the likeness of His death
- v. 6 our old man was crucified with Him
- v. 7 he who has died
- v. 8 died with Christ

But you might say it doesn't feel like I am dead to sin.

A certain man would get up every morning at 6 o'clock to get ready for work and his wife would get up with him and see him off. One night the little children needed extra care and she didn't get much sleep. When the alarm clock went off at 6 she groaned, "is that the 6 o'clock alarm"? When her husband assured her that it was she said, "It doesn't feel like 6 o'clock".

Now here's the point. It didn't feel like 6 o'clock but that was the reality. The same is true spiritually. You may not feel like you are dead to sin, but it is a spiritual reality and you are called to live accordingly.

The presence of indwelling sin in your body no longer has the right to trouble your conscience. Your sin was dealt with fully at the cross. You are now fully justified before God.

So much so that Paul in Romans 8:1 says, "There is...now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus".

Our connection with Adam has ended – our old man in union with Adam has been crucified. We have died to sin. Our former history is now history. We are now a brand-new creation in Christ Jesus with a brand new relationship with Christ. And that changes everything for time and eternity (2 Cor. 5:17).

If Gabriel, the presence angel, were to appear before you, your natural thought would be, He is holy, sinless; and I am unholy, sinful. Therefore, I am not worthy to stand in his presence. But this would be completely wrong. If you are in Christ, you stand in Christ, - in Christ alone, even as He!" – ***William Newell***

8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

Our death to sin is only half the story. We are also united with Christ in resurrection life. If we died with Christ (which we did) then we BELIEVE that we shall also live with Him.

Note the word BELIEVE here. Faith is the KEY! We must believe God's FACTS! God has revealed the facts of our spiritual UNION with Christ. We by faith rest in this reality. We are not only in the position of co-crucified with Christ but also in the position of co-risen. We spiritually share in His death and we spiritually share in His life. This is now our spiritual position!

The same mighty power which raised up Christ from the dead (1:4) is at work in the believer's life today. – ***John Phillips***

The word "if" is the sense of "since". Again, it is a spiritual FACT – an established reality. Even now we are to "**walk in newness of life**" (v. 4), but this may also look forward to the resurrection of our bodies when we will experience complete and final victory over sin (cf. Rom. 8:10-11).

9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him.

This is now the third time in chapter 6 that Paul emphasizes the word "know" in one form or another as seen in verses 3, 6, and 9.

It is important that we KNOW of our union with Christ in both His death and resurrection and what this means for us in terms of our Christian walk.

The kind of life we now share with Christ is eternal life – that will never be affected by death again! Christ will never die again. He is forever done with death! "Death no longer has dominion over Him."

During His earthly ministry Jesus raised Lazarus back to life. But this was not really resurrection life – it was more like resuscitation life. Because you see Lazarus was raised to life in his mortal physical body that would need to die again (cf. Jn. 11). That was not true for Jesus. Jesus was resurrected with a glorified body that will never die again.

Slide # 13

Revelation 1:18 (NKJV)

18 I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

Jesus is the ever living one. He defines life. He is life (Jn. 11:25, 14:6). To be sure, as the God-Man He was dead, but He rose again, and now lives forevermore.

Keys represent authority. They signify control and access.

Hades is the unseen realm of the dead. It refers to the spirit world of departed souls. Jesus has the keys over this realm. We need not fear! **Death** represents the grave, where the material body goes at the time of death.

The ultimate concern and fear of people is death. This is the ultimate problem. Only Jesus has the solution. Only He has the key to this realm. Only He can unlock this reality. The destiny of every human being is under the authority of Jesus Christ (cf. Jn. 5:28-29).

For a very short time DEATH was allowed to rule over Jesus – only because He submitted to it. But for the sake of saving people Jesus allowed DEATH to have dominion over Him. While on the cross the darkness of death reigned over the earth for three hours and Jesus allowed death to have dominion. It was during this time that in sheer horror Jesus cried out, “***My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?***” (Mt. 26:46). That is an expression of spiritual death!

The penalty for sin is death and Jesus on the cross fully tasted every aspect of death for everyone (Heb. 2:9). But NO MORE! He conquered death! Death no longer and never again will have dominion over Him! In life He now reigns over death! And because of our solidarity with Christ we now share in His victory! We now share in His life!

In Christ’s resurrection victory the mastery of death over Him has ended and that is true for us as well. The condition of Christ in His resurrection is irreversible! He will never die again – and so it is with us as well!

Slide # 14**John 11:26 (NKJV)**

26 And whoever lives and believes in Me **shall never die**. Do you believe this?”

Note how Jesus said this – it is very important. **“Whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.”** When He said, **“whoever lives”** He is referring to physical life. You have to believe in this life. You have to believe while you are living. The sense then is, **“whoever is *LIVING in this life* and believes in Me shall never die.”**

Once you die it is too late to believe. You have to do it while you are living. Heb. 9:27 says, **“it is appointed for me to die once, but after this the judgment”**. Death seals the deal! Wherever one is at the time of death – whether a believer or an unbeliever – that is where they will be forever (cf. Rev. 22:11).

Whoever lives (physically) and believes in Jesus shall never die (that is spiritually). In the Greek, “never” involves a double negative, with the idea being **“never never die”**. The emphasis is emphatic!

When my mother was dying, one day I was talking to a lady and it came up that my mother was dying. She tried to use some religious jargon – some kind of “comfort words” to make me feel better. But I told her my mom was currently in the land of the dying but on her way to the land of the living. She absolutely didn’t know what to say to that!

But that is what Jesus stressed. Those who believe in Him will NEVER NEVER die. At death they go to the glory land where all are ALIVE – more alive than they have ever been here. And there they await the resurrection of the body when glorification will be complete.

But note that Jesus then said, **“Do you believe this?”** Again, BELIEF is the ultimate issue!

For us as believers in Christ **“Death is swallowed up in victory”** (1 Cor. 15:54). When we get past death – we will be forever done with it – even as Jesus is forever done with it. Never again will we ever have to deal with DEATH! In Christ we can say, “Death to death”!

“If a believer falls asleep (God’s word for a believer’s physical death) his spirit goes to be with Christ: there is no “dark valley.” (William Newell) The Bible says for the believer, “Absent from the body...present with the Lord” (2 Cor. 5:8). Paul said “to die is gain” (Phil. 1:21) and that to depart and be with Christ “is far better” (Phil. 1:23).

Here is what awaits those “in Christ” in the eternal state.

Slide # 15

Revelation 21:4 (NKJV)

4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

- We will enter that wonderful era of “no mores”.

No more tears.

No more crying.

No more sorrow.

No more pain.

No more death.

No more sin.

This is all made possible because of union with Christ that was established on the basis of saving faith.

Romans 5:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

2 through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

In the Resurrection Chapter of 1 Corinthians 15 Paul said...

1 Corinthians 15:57 (NKJV)

57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

Verse 10 essentially serves as a summary emphasis of the KEY point Paul has been making throughout chapter 6. What Christ did in His death and resurrection we as believers now identify with and share in.

Here in verse 10 he explains the ramifications of both Christ’s death and His risen life.

Note the emphasis here in verse 10: The death that Christ died, He died to sin once for all! Christ's death is never to be repeated! It was a ONCE for all event. This means it fully accomplished God's intended purpose.

This puts a dagger through the whole concept of the Roman Catholic Mass! You see the Mass is the idea of a re-sacrificing of Christ every time it is performed. You really can't get any more blasphemous than that.

Slide # 16

"The mass is the sacrifice in which Jesus Christ, through the ministry of priests, **perpetuates the sacrifice** of the cross by his real presence under the appearances of bread and wine." (emphasis mine) - ***A Catechism for Inquirers***

Slide # 17

"The Holy Eucharist is a sacrament and **a sacrifice**...Christ instituted the Eucharist as the ceremony under which His sacrifice of the next day on Calvary was **to be continued** through the centuries...The **Mass continues the Sacrifice** of the Cross."

– ***The Baltimore Catechism***

But Christ in His dying breath said, "***It is finished!***" (Jn. 19:30). The Bible says...

Slide # 18

Hebrews 10:12 (NKJV)

12 But this Man, after He had **offered one sacrifice for sins forever**, sat down at the right hand of God,

Hebrews 10:14 (NKJV)

14 For **by one offering He has perfected forever** those who are being sanctified.

Note the double emphasis here in Romans 6:9-10. In verse 9 it says Christ "dies no more" and in verse 10 it says, "He died to sin once for all".

Romans 6:10 says that Christ "***died to sin***". This is the very same language used in Romans 6:2 where it says the believer has "***died to sin***". Whatever it means in verse 10 it must also mean in verse 2.

Other Scriptures emphasize that Christ died FOR our sins (cf. 1 Cor. 15:3), but the emphasis here is that Christ “**died to sin**”. The emphasis in Christ dying for our sins is that of paying the penalty of sin. The idea of dying **to** sin is that of relationship. Sin no longer has any relationship to Christ. He is forever done with it. The power of sin and its effects of death have forever been severed. And so, it is for the believer as well, because we are now in union with Christ. What applies to Christ – now applies to us!

In union with Christ, we are now dead to sin – which means sin no longer has power over us. Sin no longer has any claim on us!

We are “in Christ”; therefore, sin and death have no dominion over us. Jesus Christ not only died “for sin,” but He also died “to sin.” That is, He not only paid the penalty for sin, but He broke the power of sin.

– **Warren Wiersbe**

Death is final! It is a once for all reality! Positionally, you die to sin once! Christ died to sin once for all – and so did you! You do not need to keep dying...as a believer in solidarity with Christ you DIED already. You are already DEAD to sin! That is your established position in Christ. This reality will never change. It is a ONCE for all completed reality!

Slide # 19

When the Lord Jesus died, He died to the whole subject of sin once for all. He died to sin’s claims, its wages, its demands, its penalty. He finished the work and settled the account so perfectly that it never needs to be repeated. – **William MacDonald**

Christ died to sin once for all, “**but the life that He lives, He lives to God.**” Sin came between Jesus and the Father on the cross. There was a momentary interruption as sin was allowed to have its way. But then in resurrection life Christ triumphed over sin.

Jesus Christ will never have to die again because when He died *for* sin He died *to* sin. This means that when He died His relationship to sin changed. It was never the same again. Sin now has no power over Him. After He paid for our sins, He was free to resume His intimate relationship with God forever.

– **Thomas Constable**

The life that Christ lives He present tense keeps on living forever. Never again will His relationship with God the Father be interrupted by death!

And so, it is for us as believers. The word DEATH means separation. But although we may die physically, we will never be separated from God.

Slide # 20

Romans 8:38–39 (NKJV)

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,
39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, **shall be able to separate us** from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Our solidarity with Adam affected our whole life. We were born with Adam's sin. Likewise our solidarity with Christ affects our whole life. We are born again with Christ's righteousness imputed to us. In Christ we are now dead to sin – but alive to God.

When we have experienced solidarity with Christ, our lifestyle is affected, just as it was by our solidarity with Adam. If one's life has not changed and if there is no impulse for further change toward Christ, he or she is very probably not a Christian. – ***R. Kent Hughes***

The BIG IDEA in the Bible is FAITH! Hebrews 11:6 says, without faith it is impossible to please God.

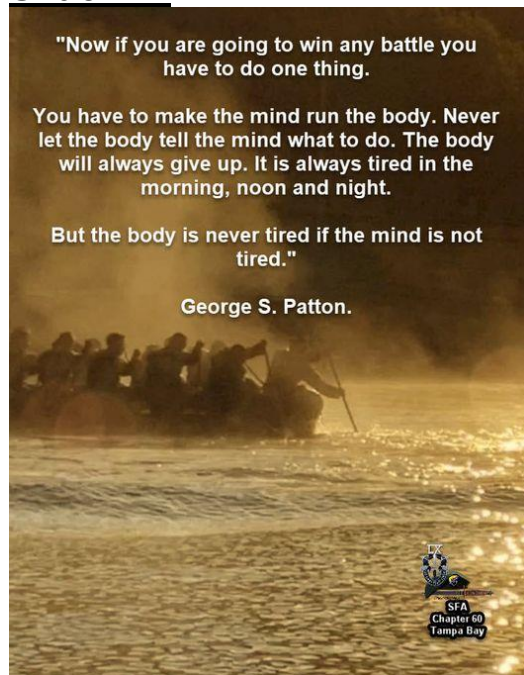
In saving faith we come to believe in Jesus as our Savior and Lord. We believe He died FOR all our sins and rose again as Lord-God over all. That is salvation – that is justification by faith.

But then comes sanctification – how we should then live. That is what Paul is dealing with here in Romans 6. Here we find that a MAJOR KEY to sanctification is KNOWING.

It is vital to KNOW the reality of our solidarity with Christ and what He accomplished for us and that we now share in His death and resurrection.

Sometimes Christians put the emphasis on STRIVING to live a holy life, but I submit to you it begins with KNOWING who you are in Christ. Three times in Romans 6:1-10 Paul emphasizes KNOWING our union with Christ. This is the KEY to living a holy life.

George Patton of world war II fame said this...

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Patton was not necessarily coming from a Christian perspective, but in effect this is what Paul was teaching us in Romans 6. We KNOW with our mind. And our knowing needs to run how we live.

One January 1, 1863 **President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation of the slaves Proclamation** announcing, **"that all persons held as slaves henceforward shall be free."**

Even though it was true not all slaves immediately acted like it. Many at first did not KNOW they were free. They couldn't walk in freedom if they didn't know it.

Likewise, spiritually speaking, the believer in Christ has been freed from both the penalty and the power of sin. We need to KNOW this and live accordingly!

God help us to live consistently with who we now are in Christ. And if you are not saved – there is only ONE way to God and that is through Jesus.

Jesus said, ***"I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved"*** (Jn. 10:9). In faith you must come to Jesus and believe on Him as your Savior who died for all your sins and as your Lord (God Master) Who rose again the third day.

Jesus said, "if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." (Jn. 8:36). Come to Jesus! He alone can set you free!