

I. INTRODUCTION.

A. Scripture text: **Romans 6:1-4.**

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace might increase? [2] May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? [3] Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? [4] Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

B. Why did God raise Jesus from the dead? So that we can walk in newness of life.

C. And Paul didn't write that verse for me to learn or to memorize, or to hang on the wall. He wrote that verse so that I could LIVE IT!

D. But there is only one way to live this new life, and be freed from sin. You have to die first. The question is not, "Have you been baptized?" but is, "Have you died to the old life?" (Rom. 6:7). for he who has died is freed from sin.

II. FREE FROM THE PENALTY OF SIN.

A. There is a terrible 3-fold penalty attached to sin:

1. Death--a separation of fellowship with God (Ezek. 18:20a; Rom. 6:23).

(Ezek 18:20a) "The person who sins will die.

(Rom 6:23) For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Condemnation--judged guilty (Mt. 12:37; Mk. 16:16b).

(Mt 12:37) "For by your words you shall be justified, and by your words you shall be condemned."

(Mk 16:16b) "...but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

3. Wrath--anger and indignation (Eph. 2:3).

(Eph 2:3) Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

B. But as a child of God I am free from the penalty of sin!

I am free because I have died to sin, and walk in newness of life:

1. No death--the gift is eternal life (Rom. 6:23).

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. No condemnation--for those in X (Rom. 8:1).

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

3. No wrath--but salvation (1Th. 5:9).

For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

C. If you have died to the old life, you can walk in newness of life, free from the penalty of sin.

III. FREE FROM THE PRACTICE OF SIN.

A. Living in newness of life means leaving the old life of sin (Rom. 6:12):

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body that you should obey its lusts,

1. Freedom is not an opportunity for the flesh (Gal. 5:13).

For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

2. The works of the flesh are obvious (Gal. 5:19-21).

Now the deeds of the flesh are evident... of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

3. To sow to the flesh reaps corruption (Gal. 6:8).

For the one who sows to his own flesh shall from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit shall from the Spirit reap eternal life.

4. The mind set on the flesh is death (Rom. 8:6).

For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,

- B. But as a child of God I am free from the practice of sin.
I am free because I have died to sin, and walk in newness of life:
1. Where do you sit, stand, and walk? (Psa. 1:1).
How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners,
Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!
 2. Walking in the light is newness of life (1Jn. 1:7).
but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the
blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.
 3. The difference should be obvious (1Jn. 3:10).
By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice
righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.
- C. If you have died to the old life, you can walk in newness of life, free from the practice of sin.

IV. FREE FROM THE PROPENSITY OF SIN.

- A. Living in newness of life means one no longer has the inclination, tendency, or desire to sin:
1. Men love the darkness, and not truth (Jn. 3:19,20).
“And this is the judgment, that the light is come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than
the light; for their deeds were evil. [20] “For everyone who does evil hates the light, and does not come to
the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.
 2. Love not the world or the things in it (1Jn. 2:15,16).
Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not
in him. [16] For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride
of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.
 3. The mind set on the flesh cannot please God (Rom. 8:6-8).
For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, [7] because the
mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not
even able to do so; [8] and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
- B. But as a child of God I am free from the propensity of sin.
I am free because I have died to sin, and walk in newness of life:
1. The mind set on the Spirit brings life (Rom. 8:9-11).
However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone
does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. [10] And if Christ is in you, though the
body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. [11] But if the Spirit of Him
who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give
life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.
 2. Let us walk by the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-25).
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23] gentleness,
self-control; against such things there is no law. [24] Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have
crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. [25] If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the
Spirit.
 3. Those that are free can even run (Isa. 40:31).
Yet those who wait for the LORD Will gain new strength; They will mount up *with* wings like eagles,
They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.

V. CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Why did John the Baptist tell people to repent? So they could have newness of life.
- B. Why did Jesus say we must deny self to be His disciple? So we could have newness of life.
- C. The real question of Romans 6 is not have you been baptized. The real question is, “Have you died to
sin?” Only those who want to die should respond.
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.