

**Title:** Real Hope and Help for Broken Sinners

**Passage:** Romans 6:1-14

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Key Truths:

- Salvation comes through grace alone. But it comes through a transformation from within where thereafter grow in godliness for His glory.
- Analogy: Trees vs. thorn bushes. Fruit trees are known by their type of fruit. But thorn bushes can never be transformed to produce fruit on its own. But a Gardener can change the nature of the thorn bush and graft fruit branches where over time can actually bear fruit. Likewise, when you become a Christian, you have a changed nature through the work of God. You will start bearing fruit (of the Spirit).
- Progressive sanctification. Analogy: God is on an escalator while we are on a yo-yo in His hands. The lows of today won't be the same tomorrow.
- Grace motivates us: I get to do this because I want to do this. You want to do what is right in God's eyes if Jesus is your Lord.

Application:

- Remind yourselves of Biblical truths. Memorize Scripture in areas where you struggle.
- Surround yourselves with those who have already been through your same struggles who can encourage you in godliness.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
  - How can you be more intentional or strategic in resisting the tendency to sin in your everyday life this week?
  - How can you offer yourself as an instrument of righteousness to God and to others this week?
  - James 1:22 admonishes us to be "doers of the Word." What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have been exposed to?
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## **Introduction**

Self-inflicted suffering

- very sad to observe as seems helpless and hopeless.

- But Romans 6 provides hope to helplessness and hopelessness.
  - Through Jesus Christ
    - All else are mere band-aids.

**Passage:**

Romans 6:1-14

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 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.

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. 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. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. 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. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

**EXPOSITION**

**Context of Passage**

Romans

- letter written by Paul to church in Rome with believers from both Jewish and Gentile backgrounds.
  - There was contention as to who was better
- Truth: all are sinners and dead in their trespasses. We are all in need of grace and mercy. (Romans 1-3)
  - The only thing we contribute to our salvation is our sin.

- Truth: God sent His Son Jesus Christ to live the perfect life we could never live and dies on the cross taking the full judgment of our sin. His resurrection proved that He is God. (Romans 3-5)
  - What are we to do? Believe in Jesus Christ.
  - The more we realize we are sinners, the more we need God's grace.

Luke 7:47

Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.”

- In realizing we have been forgiven much, we love much.

*Types of False Teaching:*

False Teaching (no law): In light of God's grace, one can continue to sin to receive more of God's grace. It's only about God's grace. It's only about "belief" and not repentance (view repentance as a type of "work"). (Anti-nominalism)

- Misperception: I don't want to be judged or convicted. Inwardly, they love or embrace a sin that they don't want to let go.
- Truth: Grace motivates you to live holy (not to sin)
  - We are saved by grace alone but saving faith is never alone
    - one turns from sin and turns towards God
      - Jesus is Savior and Lord.

False Teaching (holiness movement): God's grace is not enough so need to add to the Gospel to help people sin less. Helping the Holy Spirit to bring about holiness in others.

- Truth: we also struggle with sin from within. Sin is not merely a thing to be addressed with external behavior.

### **The Gospel of Jesus Christ:**

- Salvation comes through grace alone. But it comes through a transformation from within where thereafter seek holiness for His glory.

### ***Baptism - special symbolism of the Gospel***

Romans 6:1-4

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ

Jesus were baptized into his death? 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.

- Baptism symbolism:
  - Immerse in the water: dying to self
  - Emerge out of the water: becomes a new creation
- Symbol of being forgiven and cleansed of sin

1 John 1:8-9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

### **What does it mean you have died with Christ?**

Romans 6:5-6

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. 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.

Analogy: Trees vs. thorn bushes

- Fruit trees are known by their type of fruit.
- Thorn bushes can never be transformed to produce fruit on its own.
  - But a Gardener can change the nature of and graft fruit branches where over time can actually bear fruit.
- Analogy: When you become a Christian, you have a changed nature from the inside out through the work of God. You will start producing fruit (of the Spirit).

Matthew 7:17-20

So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

Ezekiel 36:26-27

And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

### **Death has no dominion over our lives**

Romans 6: 7-11

For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

- Upon salvation: Justified: penalty of sin has been paid
  - Then Sanctified: learning how not to be under the power of sin.
    - Then Glorified: One day before Jesus, the presence of sin will be removed entirely.

! John 1:8

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

- “we have no sin” = habitual sin where do not fight sin.
- Meaning = If you have habitual sin where don't fight sin, then you are not a Christian.
  - If you do not believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ has the power to help you over sin, then you are helpless and hopeless.
- Progressive sanctification:
  - Analogy: God is on an escalator while we are on a yo-yo in His hands.
    - The lows of today won't be the same tomorrow.
      - You will get better and better over time.

2 Corinthians 3:18

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Philippians 3:12

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

### **Don't let sin reign / Fight Sin**

Romans 6:12-13

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

- Be wise and discerning in handling of sin.

- Fighting the flesh requires intentionality and support from others as part of the body of Christ.

### **You are under grace**

Romans 6:14

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

- Grace motivates us: I get to do this because I want to do this.
  - If truly a Christian, you want to do what is right.
- Memorize Scripture in areas where you struggle.
- Surround yourselves with those who have already been through your same struggles.

### **Application Points**

- Remind yourselves of Biblical truths
  - The battle is from within.

Ephesians 4:23-24

and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

- Put on the new self by renew your mind with God's Word.

Philippians 4:6-8

do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

- The more you love Christ, the more you hate sin.

Philippians 1:6

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.