

ROMANS 6 “Q & A”

In chapter 6 Paul presents two questions that deal with some common misunderstandings (accusations) about living under grace. His answers give us a clear before and now picture as he goes back and forth between the two.

Important Facts to Consider

1. No one can say he/she has never sinned.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

1 John 1:8-10

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

2. Jesus came to save us from our sins!

Matthew 1:18-23

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.¹⁹ Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.²⁰ But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.²¹ And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name

JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”²² So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying:²³ “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”

Romans 5:6-10

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.⁷ For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die.⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.¹⁰ For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

3. The accomplishments of the New Covenant are based upon forgiveness of sins.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—³² not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD.³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.³⁴ No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least

of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. **For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.**"

4. This forgiveness is based on Christ's perfect sacrifice. His death not only was the last offering for our sins and lawless deeds, but the initiation of the New Covenant.

John 1:29

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

Hebrews 10:11-17

And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. ¹⁴ For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

¹⁵ But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before,

¹⁶ "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them," ¹⁷ then He adds, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." ¹⁸ Now where there is remission of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.

5. If we are born again, forgiveness of sins is something we already have, not something we need to obtain.

I

1 John 2:12

*I write to you, little children, because your sins **are** forgiven you for His name's sake.*
Ephesians 1:7

*In Him we **have** redemption through His blood, **the forgiveness of sins**, according to the riches of His grace.*

Colossians 1:13-14

*He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we **have** redemption through His blood, **the forgiveness of sins**.*

6. At the same time He forgave our sins, He canceled the law.

Colossians 2:13

And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, ¹⁴ having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

7. Since the law has been nailed to the cross, we cannot be condemned (negatively sentenced) if we break it.

Romans 4:14-15

*For if those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise made of no effect, ¹⁵ because the law brings about wrath; **for where there is no law there is no transgression.***

a. 613 laws canceled through one sacrifice!

i. Don't walk on the grass!

b. Civil laws, civil penalties

- c. Relational consequences
- d. No condemnation (negative sentence for sin—consequences), no judgment, no wrath FROM GOD for those who believe.

Romans 1:1

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

John 5:24

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and **shall not come into judgment**, but has passed from death into life.

Romans 5:9

Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be **saved from wrath** through Him.

8. All people are born sinners because of Adam's transgression, but anyone who believes in Jesus is made righteous. **To be righteous is the OPPOSITE of being a sinner. You can only be one or the other.**

Romans 5:18-21

Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, **even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life.**¹⁹ For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.²⁰ Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more,²¹ so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

9. We are not only forever forgiven, but we have been set free from the power of sin. Our very nature has been changed. That brings us to Romans chapter 6.

Question #1

Romans 6:1 What shall we say then?

→→→→Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase?

	What Jesus Accomplished (What Happened to Us)	OUR FREEDOM
2-3	<i>Romans 6:2-3 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?</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We died to sin. ▪ We were baptized into Christ. ▪ We were baptized into His death. 	<p>How can we still live in sin? <u>We are free!!!</u></p>

- Paul does not deal with the sin question by telling people not to sin.
- He reasons with us by addressing our standing in Christ.
- Sadly many of the sermons today focus on what we should or should not be doing instead of why we are FREE. The focus should not be to “Get right with God,” but rather, “You ARE ALREADY right with God and freed from sin in order to live freely.”

4	<p><i>Romans 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of LIFE.</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We were buried with him. ▪ Christ was raised from the dead. ▪ We are raised with Him.
5-7	<p><i>Romans 6:5-6 For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His RESURRECTION,⁶ knowing this, that <u>our old self was crucified with Him</u>, in order that <u>our body of sin might be done away with</u>, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; 7 for he who has died is freed from sin.</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ United with Him in likeness of His death and resurrection. ▪ <u>Our old self was crucified with Him.</u> ▪ The body of our sin was done away with.
	<p>“He who has died is <u>freed</u> from sin.” The Greek word translated “freed” in this verse is from the same Greek word as “to make righteous”. It is a legal term. The believer is legally free from sin because we have been declared righteous before God!</p> <p><i>dikaioō; to show to be righteous, declare righteous: - acknowledged...justice, acquitted, freed, justified, vindicated.</i></p>
	<p>What Jesus Accomplished (What Happened to Us)</p>
	<p>OUR FREEDOM</p>
8-11	<p><i>Romans 6:8-11 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also LIVE with Him,⁹ knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him.¹⁰ For the death that He died, He died to sin <u>once</u> for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.¹¹ Even so (in the same way Jesus did) consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but ALIVE to God in Christ Jesus.</i></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>We died and rose with Christ.</i>▪ <i>Christ was raised from the dead and will die no more.</i>▪ <i>He died once for all.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>We live with Him.</i>▪ <i>We are alive unto God in Jesus.</i>
--	---

Colossians 3:1-3 Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. ³ **For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.** ⁴ When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. ⁵ **Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.**

WE ARE DEAD TO THE POWER OF SIN AND THEREFORE DEAD TO SIN & TO SINNING!!!!

The above statement makes many people upset. Does it mean that you will never sin again? No. It means you don't have to sin again. There is no longer a power forcing you to sin. It is no longer your nature to sin. Furthermore, since you have been declared righteous before God, you are continually forgiven of any sin. Sin CANNOT STICK TO YOU! Sinning for the believer is a choice. We can choose to live according to the flesh (self-effort) or we can choose to live according to the Spirit. The important thing to understand is we have a choice because we are legally declared free from sin.

More importantly:

We are ALIVE to God in Christ Jesus.

So, instead of seeing yourself as a dead sinner, see yourself as the righteousness of God in Christ, eternally ALIVE.

12- 14	<p><i>Romans 6:12-14 Therefore <u>do not let</u> sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,¹³ and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. ↓ ¹⁴ For sin shall not be master over you, for (because) you are <u>not</u> under law but under <u>grace</u>.</i></p>				
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"><thead><tr><th style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">BEFORE</th><th style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">NOW</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td style="padding: 10px;"><ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Sin reigned in our bodies.</i></td><td style="padding: 10px;"><ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>We have the power to forbid sin</i></td></tr></tbody></table>	BEFORE	NOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Sin reigned in our bodies.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>We have the power to forbid sin</i>
BEFORE	NOW				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Sin reigned in our bodies.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>We have the power to forbid sin</i>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We obeyed the lust of our bodies. ▪ We presented our bodies to sin as instruments of unrighteousness. ▪ Sin was master over us. ▪ WE <u>WERE</u> UNDER LAW. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>to reign in our bodies.</i> ▪ We present ourselves to God. ▪ We present our bodies as instruments of righteousness. ▪ Sin is NOT master over us. ▪ WE <u>ARE</u> UNDER GRACE (not law).
--	--	--

You might ask, well, then why do I (or others) still struggle with sin?

- ✓ Are you born again? If you aren't, you cannot be free from sin.
- ✓ Do you see yourself as a sinner or righteous? You need to know the good news about what who you are in Christ.
- ✓ Do you know how forgiven you are? Some people live in a constant cycle of sinning and asking for forgiveness, of feeling justified when they do what they should and don't do what they shouldn't and condemned when they do what they shouldn't and don't do what they think they should. This cycle leads to defeat.
- ✓ Is there a law lurking in your life? (The power, *dynamis*, of sin is the law.) Usually people who are born again and struggling with sin have false expectations in their lives.
- ✓ Are you living under His grace? This means living in the awareness that you already are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, even if you fail. When you know you are His righteousness, the desire to sin will fade and die off.



SIN IS NO LONGER OUR MASTER BECAUSE . . . WE ARE NOT UNDER LAW BUT UNDER GRACE.

As long as we measure our righteousness before God based on how well we keep our laws (the law of Moses, current religious standards, laws others tell us we have to keep, or the laws we make for ourselves), we cannot enjoy the fullness that is ours under grace.

Vs

Question #2

- *Romans 6:15*

15 ➔ Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace?

The answer is of course, “May it never be!”

Paul’s Slavery Illustration

(I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh.)

BEFORE CHRIST

NOW

16

Romans 6:16 Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey,

either of sin resulting in death,

or of **obedience** resulting in righteousness?

Paul is NOT saying that Christians choose between serving sin and obeying laws, sometimes slaves of sin and sometimes slaves of righteousness. He is saying that we USED to be slaves of sin and therefore obeyed sin. When Paul says “obedience” below, he is referring to believing in Jesus (vs. 17). Obedience refers to obeying God in believing in His Son.

This is VERY IMPORTANT because Paul had just taught in the first part of Romans that obeying the law does NOT result in righteousness, rather believing in Jesus (FAITH ONLY) results in God making us righteous. OBEDIENCE in and of itself CANNOT MAKE US RIGHTEOUS. If Paul meant that obedience results in righteousness, there would be no need for Jesus...just obey and voila! You are righteous. This can only be referring to putting one’s faith in Jesus, and just in case someone misunderstands, he explains what he meant by “obedience”.↓

IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

- ✓ *Paul said, “of sin”, not “of Satan”*
- ✓ *There is no distance between your sin and your forgiveness.*
- ✓ *The only thing Satan can do is try to convince you that you have lost your right standing with God or lie to you to make you think that He has left you or is angry with you.*
- ✓ *If you sin, declare who you are (submit to God), resist Satan’s lies, and he will flee from you.*

17

Romans 6:17 But thanks be to Godthat though you **WERE** slaves of sin,you became **obedient** from the heart
to that form of teaching to which you
were committed,

Paul is giving thanks because the Romans obeyed the gospel; that is, that they believed in and received Jesus as Lord BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH. They were born again; thus are no longer slaves of sin, but of righteousness.

18

*and having been FREED from sin,**you became slaves of righteousness.*

"Freed" eleutheroō; from **G1658**; to make free, fig. to exempt (from liability)

Exempt (freed) from liability to what? SIN AND THE LAW

Christians are freed from sin.

We are no longer slaves of sin. We are NOW "slaves" of righteousness.

19

Romans 6:19 I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh.

Paul is using a human illustration to help us understand. He is not saying we are slaves, rather using the term to make the contrast. We are children of God, no longer slaves to the law. *Galatians 4:4-7*

For just as you presentED
your members as slaves to impurity and
to lawlessness, resulting in further
lawlessness,

so NOW present your members as slaves
to righteousness, resulting in
sanctification.

20-
21

For when you WERE slaves of sin, you WERE free in regard to righteousness.²¹ Therefore what benefit were you then deriving from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the outcome of those things is death.

22

But now since you have been set free from sin and have become the slaves of God, you have your present reward in holiness and its end is eternal life. (Amplified)

23

**THE WAGES OF SIN = DEATH
(non-believers)**

**THE FREE GIFT OF GOD =
ETERNAL LIFE**

Eternal life in scripture is used both as eventual and something we have now. When we WERE slaves of sin, our wages WERE death. Now that we are righteous, and freed from sin, our current FREE GIFT (not wages) is holiness and its end is eternal life.