

Romans 6:11-14 Who Is The Master?

Titus 3:4-7; Romans 6:12-14; Ephesians 6:10-19

0. Prelude - Let us review Justification

A. Elements of Initial Salvation or Justification:

1. Legal standing made right standing by the blood of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit according to the foreknowledge of God the Father **1 Peter 1:2; Romans 8:29**

2. One hitter quitter - Nothing more to be done to save you.
Hebrews 9:28 (ESV) so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Hebrews 10:10 (ESV) And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

1 Peter 3:18 (ESV) For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,

3. All by God:
Titus 3:4-7 (ESV) But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

4. Same for all of those who repent of their sins and believe on His name:
Acts 2:38 (ESV) And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

B. Elements of Ongoing Salvation or Sanctification (Growing in Likeness of Christ)

1. Legal standing versus Internal Change
2. One hitter quitter versus Ongoing Work
3. All by God versus All by You and God
4. Same for all versus Different Levels of Growth within Believers

I. Trust me, you're still dead

A. You called yourself saved. You believed you are saved. You know Christ lives in your heart. Uh what now?

B. Fact/Promise #1: Sin has no power and reign over you.
that is what we will be talking about today

C. Paul states what your mindset should be previously:

Romans 6:11 (ESV) So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

D. Sets up...

Romans 6:12-14 (ESV) 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.

II. (1) You don't wrestle with sin

Romans 6:12 (ESV) Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions.

A. It is not just you and your sin and you get to wrestle it one-on-one

B. That alone will cause you to fail.

C. Just removing temptation is not enough

D. Habitual Sin of Choice:

1. Alcoholic dumps every single bottle of spirits, beer and wine down the toilet yet he sits alone and all he can think about is that next drink

2. You have one dude in the slammer, picked up because he was kicking the crap out of someone. Yet, all he can think about is finishing the beatdown as soon as he gets out of jail.

3. Porn addict tosses his computer into an incinerator. Yet, he has millions upon millions of women in the harem of his mind.

4. The girl in a relationship, having sex with her boyfriend. Because the boyfriend doesn't respect her at all, she continues in this relationship and thinks that her boyfriend will change on his own.

Question: What sins you are you wrestling with in hopes that you will overcome and you will win at this?

E. Conquer/Defeat by self leads to:

1. Pride

a. Look at me, I did this on my own. I get all the credit.

b. But when somebody struggles with the same thing, you have no compassion

2. Worldly Sorrow

a. Ugh, I can't beat this on my own

b. I suck

c. Let me dive headlong into this sin, full throttle

Question: can you think of sins past or present that you have either beaten on your own or fell into it full throttle?

III. (2) You don't worship sin

Romans 6:13 (ESV) 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.

A. Do not present not just your physical body to sin but everything that you have:

computer, internet, car, money, words, relationships, food, drink, etc.

1 Corinthians 10:31 *So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*

B. Whatever we do is worship to God or at least it should be!

1. Worship doesn't end when Matt puts down his guitar
2. Worship doesn't end even when I stop proclaiming the gospel of Christ
3. Worship doesn't end when we are no longer around "church people"

Question: Is what I do give glory to God? Is this moment giving glory to God?

D. Fine and well but how do I train myself up? Later...

IV. You don't subject yourself to sin

Romans 6:14 (ESV) *For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.*

A. Whether you believe it or not, sin has **no** dominion over you

B. Okay, you can believe it and therefore, it will have power over you

C. But that would be like bitterness:

1. I am furiously mad at you for the wrong you did to me
2. But that person is totally unaware that you are mad at them
3. In other words, I drink the poison but I expect you to die

D. The only thing giving sin power in your life is you.

E. How do I stop giving sin this much power in my life? Later... well, later is now.

V. You are with Christ Jesus

A. Wrestle Christ instead:

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 *Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.*

1. Paul compares to Christians to athletes
 - a. Runners run
 - b. Boxers box
 - c. Athletes train and discipline
 - d. We are training to a life of comfort and ease but training to do the job and finish the job well.
 - e. What does our training get?

Genesis 32:23-25 (ESV) He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

2. Jacob
 - a. Cheated, lied, straight up pulled a "fast one" over his dying, blind dad, Isaac, in order to straight jack Esau for birthright
 - b. Jacob gets his blessing after wrestling and training with Jesus Christ
 - c. But in doing so, Jesus Christ pulls a crippling touch attack (Shaolin Kung-Fu style) on Jacob, injuring him for life
 - d. Jesus had to take the pride out of Jacob in order for Jacob to glorify God
3. In our training, working out and wrestling with God, you need to be open to what God might have to do with you in order for you to do His will. Scary thought.

Ephesians 6:10-19

2. We know **Ephesians 6:12 (ESV) For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.**

- a. What is the purpose of the armour of faith? Check out **Ephesians 6:10**
- b. Lord's strength and might gives you salvation, righteousness, faith, truth, peace and His Word
- c. How? **Ephesians 6:18-19**
 1. pray - **praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.**
 2. read the Word - **To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints**
 3. evangelize - **also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel,**

B. Worship Christ instead:

1. Not saying:
 - a. all of the songs on your iPod with worship music
 - b. replace all of your clothing and accessories with WWJD
 - c. plaster the entire back of your car with Jesus fish and Scripture bumper stickers
2. What I am saying that:
 - a. get with other believers
 - b. stop doing this on your own

Galatians 3:3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

3. How did you think you were going to do this by yourself?
 - a. You are not going to do this without Christ, right?
 - b. If we are the body of Christ, then how are you going to do without His body?

Hebrews 10:23-25 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

c. Listen, if you don't believe me, just go home get on esv.org or biblegateway.org or whatever Bible software you use and I dare you to do a word search on the word 'together'

i. Woman with lost mite - **Luke 15:9 And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.'**

ii. Day of Pentecost - **Acts 2:1 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.**

d. This might be the hardest thing I ask of you: You might have to go and do church outside the weekend services

i. Get into small groups

ii. Check out Freedom Ministries with Gateway or Celebrate Recovery with a church that is closer to you

iii. Check out DivorceCare

iiii. Get some Biblical Counseling with godly men and women - what I mean by Biblical is that if they don't take you back to the scriptures over and over again and thus letting the Scriptures ask you the tough questions, then it is not even worth your time

C. All of this training is to:

1. Renew your mind (**Romans 12:2**) so that you start to believe that sin no longer has dominion over you if you are believer in Christ

2. Most of all, it gets you and keeps you closer to Christ.

D. Endquote

"... from him [Christ] as from a fountain, sanctification flows into the souls of the Saints: their sanctification comes not so much from their struggling, and endeavors, and vows, and resolutions, as it comes flowing to them from their union with Him." - Jeremiah Bourroughs, seventeenth-century Puritan

"we saints must not close our mouths to this fountain of sanctification, but continue to drink from it." - H. Thielicke

This is a process that is going to take a lot of work, might hurt and might sting and through it, it might not make senses. But in the end, it is all worth it to dance in the glory of God because you are now free from your former pimps, your former slavemaster, your former masters.