

The Liberating Truth of Romans 6

Romans 6:1-14: Three keywords: *Know* (v. 3), *Consider* (v. 11), *Present* (v. 13).

I. Know your position in Christ

- Verse 3: "Do you not know?"
- 1. If you want victory over sin, you must know your position in Christ.
 - Verses 1-2: "We...died to sin." You have a new status that radically alters your relationship to sin. Its power and reign over you have been broken (cf. verses 6-7, 14).
- 2. Verses 3-4: You have a whole new identity by virtue of your union with Christ.
 - Theologians refer to this as "Identification."
- 3. The main point: You will not enter into a life of victory if you <u>only</u> see the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ as a means of delivering you from the penalty of sin (hell). To live a life of victory, you <u>also</u> need to see yourself as having "died with Christ" and as having been raised to "newness of life."
 - **Verse 5:** In a sense, believers share in Christ's resurrection life *now* (Rom. 6:4b, 13; Gal. 2:20; Col. 3:1).
 - Verse 6-7: Sins mastery and power has been broken.

II. Consider this to be true

- 1. **Verse 11:** Believe what God says is true.
- 2. A warning about "feelings."



- 3. How can the exhortation in verse 11 be put into practice in everyday life?
 - Temptation "feel" compelled to sin.
 - Your identity in Christ must shape the way you think about yourself and the things you face in life.
- 4. Verse 12: You can now choose not to obey your old sinful desires and tendencies.

III. Present yourself to God as an instrument for righteousness

- 1. Verse 13: The personal and practical working of the sanctifying process.
- 2. Two-facets to the sanctification process in v. 13 (cf. Eph 4:22-24; Col 3:1-17).
 - Sanctification is not merely the avoidance of sin, but the promotion of godliness.
- 3. A personal word of assurance and encouragement **Romans 6:19**.

Recommended Resources:

- 1. "The Liberating Truth of Romans 6: Breaking Free from Sinful Habits, Thoughts, and Tendencies," by Armand Tiffe. Helps believers understand their union and identity in Christ. It's an eye-opener and faith-builder for any struggling Christian.
- 2. "Transformed into His Likeness: A Handbook for Putting Off Sin and Putting On Righteousness," by Armand Tiffe. A practical resource detailing how to put Christ-like change into practice in everyday life and a useful tool for those involved in counseling/discipleship ministries. It's a perfect sequel to "The Liberating Truth of Romans 6" booklet.