

Text: Romans 6:1—14
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Grace Bible Church
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The Death of Sin and New Life in Christ

1) When Christ _____, believers in a crucial sense _____ in Him and with Him.

2) When Christ _____, believers in a crucial sense were made _____ in Him.

3) Therefore, believers are commanded to become in practice what we are becoming in Christ: _____ to sin and _____ to God.

Doctrinal Points from this Text¹:

1. Truth cannot lead to unholiness. If a doctrine encourage sin, it must be false (verses 1, 2).
2. There can be no greater contradiction than for one who lives in continual, habitual sin to claim to be a Christian (verse 2).
3. The grand design of Christianity is the destruction of sin. When sincerely embraced, therefore, it is with a view to this end (verse 3).
4. The source of the believer's holiness is his union with Christ, by which his reconciliation to God, and his participation of the influences of the Holy Spirit are secured (verses 4, 6).
5. The fact that Christ lives, renders it certain that His people shall live in holiness here, and in glory hereafter (Verse 8).
6. The only proper evidence that we are partakers of the benefits of the death and life of Christ, is our dying to sin, and living to God (verse 11).
7. The gospel, which teaches the only true method of justification, is the only system that can secure the sanctification of men. This is not only the doctrine of this section, but it is the leading truth of this and the following chapter.
8. The leading doctrine of this section, and of the whole gospel, in reference to sanctification, is that grace, instead of leading to the indulgence of sin, is essential to the exercise of holiness. So long as we are under the influence of a self-righteous or legal spirit, the motive and aim of all good works, are wrong or defective. But when we accept the gracious offers of the gospel, and know that our sins have been graciously forgiven, a sense of the divine love, shed abroad in the heart by the Holy Spirit awakens our holy affections. The motive to obedience is now love, and its aim the glory of God.

A Few Points to Ponder:

1. The most prominent truth in this passage is that the death of Christ secures the destruction of sin where it secures its forgiveness.
2. For a professing Christian to live in habitual sin, is not only to give positive evidence that he is not a real Christian, but it is to misrepresent and slander the gospel of the grace of God.
3. Remember the proper order: personal holiness does not lead to forgiveness of sins, but forgiveness of sins is what leads to holiness.
4. The only effectual method of gaining the victory over our sins, is to live in communion with Jesus Christ. Those who look to Christ not only for forgiveness, but also for holiness are successful in subduing sin, while the one who is the legalist will remain a slave to sin.

¹ Taken from *Romans* by Charles Hodge.