

## **Living in Light of the Empty Tomb**

Romans 6:1-2 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? 2 May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?

Romans 6:3-7 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? 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. 5 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 our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; 7 for he who has died is freed from sin.

This 6<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans tells us one thing we need to know and two things we need to do if we're going to experience this new life.

### **1. Know – We are freed from sin!**

Romans 6:6-7 Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; 7 for he who has died is freed from sin.

- Romans 5 is about entering the Christian life. Romans 6 is about living the Christian life.
- Romans 5:6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.
- Romans 5:8-9 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified <sup>a</sup>by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath *of God* through Him.

- **Our old self was crucified with Jesus.**

Romans 6:6 Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with...

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

- **We are no longer slaves to sin.**

Romans 6:6 Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin

- **We have been set free!**

Romans 6:7 for he who has died is freed from sin.

- If you died, you're free from sin.
- Bill Gillham: "What you believe about your identity is what is going to make the difference. You will live out whatever you believe to be your true self, your true identity."

### **2. Do – Calculate yourself to be dead to sin and alive in Christ.**

Romans 6:9-10 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 once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. 11 Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

- Colossians 3:3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

- **Consider yourself dead to sin.**

- The word consider is an accounting term. Add this truth to your “account.”

- **Consider yourself alive in Christ.**

- John 14:6 “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life...”

### 3. **Do – Surrender to Jesus as Lord.**

Romans 6:12-13 Therefore do not let 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.

- **Choice – Do not let sin dominate your life.**

- If you are a Christian, sin is not king of your heart. Jesus is.

- Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

- **Choice – Do not keep availing your body as an instrument of unrighteousness.**

- Romans 6:13 and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin *as* instruments of unrighteousness...

- Unrighteousness is anything unworthy of God’s character

- **Choice – Present yourself to God.**

Romans 6:13 ... but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God.

Romans 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Romans 6:17-18 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

#### **Further Thought:**

- Are you truly a Christian? Have you died to sin and become alive in Christ?
- What will you do this week to embrace the truth that the old you is dead to sin, so sin has no power of you?
- What daily practice can you do to calculate yourself to be dead to sin and alive in Christ?
- What is your greatest challenge to full surrender to Christ as Lord? How will you experience victory this week?