

Welcome To

MBC
Malvern Bible Chapel



Sanctification 101—Part 2

**Part of the Romans Preaching Series:
The Gospel—the Power of God
for Salvation**

Romans 6:15-23

Robert L. Watt
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Sanctification 101—Part 2

Text: Romans 6:15-23 (NKJV)

¹⁵ What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin *leading* to death, or of obedience *leading* to righteousness? ¹⁷ But God be thanked that *though* you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. ¹⁸ And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ I speak in human *terms* because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness *leading* to *more* lawlessness, so now present your members *as slaves of* righteousness for holiness.

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Text: Romans 6:15-23 (NKJV) (cont.)

²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things *is* death. ²² But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. ²³ For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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Introduction:

Outline of Romans so far:

Introduction (1:1-17): Theme stated “the Gospel of Christ reveals the righteousness of God”.

Sin (1:18-3:20): how righteousness is needed by the whole world that is guilty.

Salvation (3:21-5:21): how righteousness is imputed by the judicial process of justification.

Sanctification (Rom. 6:1-8:39): how our righteousness is imparted.

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Introduction: (cont.)

Review of previous lesson

1. **Know the truth** (6:1-10) [Envelopes]

| Romans 3:21-5:21 | Romans 6:1-8:39 |
|--|---|
| Substitution: He died for me | Identification: I died with Him |
| He died for my sins | He died unto sin |
| He paid sin's penalty | He broke sin's power |
| Justification: righteousness imputed (put on my account) | Sanctification: righteousness imparted (made a part of my life) |
| Saved by His death | Saved by His life |

2. **Claim the truth (Reckon)** (6:11)

3. **Apply the truth (Present)** (6:12-14)

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Body of Lesson:

- This section also introduced by a rhetorical question (v.15).
- Just as “identification” was the key thought in the previous lesson, Paul expands on the necessity of “presentation” in today’s lesson.
- Who we present ourselves to obey after salvation is key to the subject we will talk about today: **slavery and freedom**.
- Profound wisdom is often found in very simple statements:
 - “We all will live forever—the only question is where!”
 - “We are all slaves—the only question is to whom!” (or the corollary, “We are never really free!”)
 - When we understand we are not free, that is when we really can experience true freedom! How is that for a paradox?

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Body of Lesson:

Paul develops this section by comparing and contrasting three things:

A. Two kinds of masters.

1. Sin (Disobedience, Unrighteousness, Law)

- Paul asks his own rhetorical question (v.16).
- Grace has freed us. We now have a real choice between 2 masters to serve.
- The old master (“sin”) is dedicated to the destruction of those who serve it.

2. God (Obedience, Righteousness, Grace)

- The new master (“obedience”) seeks righteousness, those things that please God and give life to those who serve Him.
- When Paul reflects on all this, he bursts into a doxology of praise (v.17-18)!
- A critical parallel passage is **1 Cor. 6:9-20** (esp. **v.19-20**): “Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

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Body of Lesson:

Paul develops this section by comparing and contrasting three things:

B. Two kinds of slaves.

1. Slaves of Unrighteousness (Lawlessness)

- Very common in Roman Empire with enemy slaves captured in wars.
- Normally auctioned in Rome; no rights, can't do his/her will; obey to stay alive!
- Suppose the one who purchased (redeemed) the slave did so because he loved the slave and only wanted the best for his slave. Not free now except to serve!

2. Slaves of Righteousness (Holiness)

- “Voluntary indenture”; could be released at the end of the set time, or they could put themselves back under the authority of their loving master and have their earlobe pierced as a sign (see [Ex. 21:6](#); cf. [Psa. 40:6](#); “opened” means pierced).
- Parenthesis to drive home the point (v.19-21).
- Sin is usually the result of trying to fulfill a legitimate need in an illegitimate way.
- Example of the “prodigal son” is very instructive in these matters.

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Body of Lesson:

Paul develops this section by comparing and contrasting three things:

C. Two kinds of rewards (wages).

1. Death (Eternal separation from God)

- The wages of sin is death.... When you work for this master all you can expect at the end is death—eternal separation from God (v.23a). That is not what we were created for, but if we refuse the gift of salvation, there is no other means of salvation possible! But...(and here is where grace comes in)

2. Life (Eternal intimacy with God; in Christ Jesus our Lord)

- The gift of God is eternal life (v.22, 23b). The reward is not something we earn like wages—it is a gift that we must receive by faith, and then open and enjoy it!
- Eternal life starts now, not just something we get later in heaven, and it is all because we are in Christ Jesus our Lord! Are you?
- The more intimate we are with our Lord, the more we want to love and serve Him and not grieve our Lord and rebel against His authority (like marriage analogy).

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Application:

1. What master are you a slave of?

One that's killing you, or one that's promoting real life and righteousness (sanctification)?

2. What kind of slave are you?

One that's held against your will and resists authority, or one that's redeemed and willingly submits to your new loving ownership?

3. What reward are you going to get?

One that's destined to eventually result in eternal separation from God, or one that's even now resulting in eternal intimacy with God?