

Title: Victory over sin - Part 2

Text: Romans 6:1-11

Take your Bibles, please, and turn to Romans chapter 6. ^{We} want to continue were ^{we} left off last Sunday morning. If you will remember, we were discussing HOW TO HAVE VICTORY OVER SIN. Now, I want to read the entire passage, once again, just to keep the content in mind.

(Romans 6:1-11)

Prayer

Let me review for a moment. We have been studying the principles of God's Righteousness. And the first principle that we looked at was the principle of CONDEMNATION. According to the first three chapters of Romans, all people whether religious or non-religious, all people are condemned before God. So, in order to experience God's righteousness we need to apply to our life ~~situation~~ the second principle which is the principle of JUSTIFICATION. Justification is the act whereby God pronounces us righteous because we have received by faith the Lord Jesus Christ as our saviour.

With this in mind we now come to the third principle of God's righteousness. And this is the great principle of SANTIFICATION. The word "santification" simply means "the process by which God is changing you." You see, God wants all of us to be different from the world. He wants us to be Christ like in attitudes and motives and ^{actions} ~~purpose~~. He wants us to have life and life more abundant. And so, God the Holy Spirit is trying to change us.

Now, last Sunday, we began by looking at Romans chapter 6 which deals with ^{This} ~~the~~ important matter of HOW TO HAVE VICTORY OVER SIN. We all know that there is sin in our life. Even though we are christians, we still are faced with the old sin problem. The Apostle Paul said it best for every one of us.

(He said, at times I do the things that I know I shouldn't do, and I don't do the things that I know I should do.

Have you ever felt that way? I am sure you have. We all face this issue. So, what is the answer:? The answer is found here in Romans chapter 6. A great section of scripture for all believers.

Last Sunday, we learned that a Christian faces two problems. When a person receives Jesus Christ as Saviour, he is pronounced righteous before God, but, he then faces two problems.

(1E) The first problem involves the purpose of God. Vs 1 says, "What shall we say then? ^{sure} ~~do~~ we to continue in sin that grace might increase?" And Paul says "NO" in Vs 2. We do not continue to sin in order to receive more grace. God's grace doesn't increase because I sin. God's grace increases in spite of my sin. And even if I never sinned, God's grace is still there. Whether I sin once or a thousand times, God's grace is still as strong as it ever was. So, ^{an} ~~my~~ sin doesn't change or control the wonderful Grace of God.

(2E) The second problem that develops out of JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH is the practice of a believer. Vs 2 says "how shall we who died to sin still live in it? The "live" means "habit of life." Not any individual single once in a life time sin. But sin as a habit of life/

So, if you are living as a christian by way of habit of life in sin, Paul ask: "How can you do that when you are dead to sin?" And that introduces what God through Paul is now going to talk about. AND THAT IS: HOW TO HAVE VICTORY OVER A HABIT OF LIFE OF SIN.

Now, Paul says, in order to have victory over sin, you must understand ^{some} ~~three~~ basic principles. Last Sunday we looked at the first principle. The principle of baptism. And, if you were not here, I would suggest that you see the good folks up on the sound board. They make taps of all messages. And I am sure that they would be happy to provide a tape of last Sunday's message. It is very important to your understanding of victory.

(2E) O.k. Let's come, now, to the second ^{issue} ~~principle~~ concerning victory over sin. And this is the ^{issue} ~~principle~~ of CRUCIFIXION. Vs 6 through 8 deals with the ^{issue} ~~principle~~ of crucifixion. Now, let me read those verses once again.

(Read Vs 6-8)

3 things about the ^{issue} ~~principle~~ of Crucifixion

(1~~K~~) The first ~~issue~~^{thing} that I want you to see is found in Vs 6. It involves our slavery to sin. And the exciting thing is that according to Vs 6 our slavery to sin has been broken. And it was broken the moment you believed in Jesus Christ.

Now, I don't believe that anybody want to be a slave to sin. I don't believe that anybody wants to walk around in life serving sin. So, please, notice, that according to Vs 6, the moment we believed in and received Jesus as our saviour, the sin problem was broken....PRAISE GOD!

Vs 6 says, "knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him." PAST TENSE....It has already happened. There is nothing you can do about it

Now WHY?....."that our body of sin might be done away with."

KJ uses the word "destroyed." And you must be careful with that word "destroyed." The word in the Greek means "to render inoperative"...or.... "to render in affective."

Sin is not killed. Just in case you haven't noticed. Sin is very much alive. God never says, "count sin to be dead." But, He does say, "Count yourself to be dead to sin's power over you."

I believe there are two things that we must get stright in our minds.

(1) First, becoming a Christian does not get rid of sin. When you become a christian the sin problem is not eliminated. It is still there. Sin is in the world. And sin will remain in the world until the second coming of Christ. Then sin will be no more. But, right now, sin is in the world.

(2) And the second thing that we need to remember is that God is not talking about Temptation. Many people believe that when you get victory over sin, you are no longer tempted.....WRONG.....That is not what the Bible teaches. In fact, when you start having victory, that is when temptation really comes. If you don't believe that just read the Bible testimonies of the great Saints. And you will discovery that great temptation comes to great hearts. Those who want to follow God with all of their hearts, HAY, LISTEN! .. you are going to be tempted like you have never been tempted before....WHY?.....Because Satan doesn't want you to have victory and growth in your life.

So, Paul, when he talks about victory over sin, is not talking about eliminating temptation. But when temptation comes, dear friends, please claim the promise found in I Cor. 10:13...Temptation is never so strong that you cannot bear it. In fact, God will not permit that to happen. And when temptation comes God will provide a way to escape that you may be able to endure it.....PRAISE GOD!

But, don't think you are getting rid of Temptation or sin when you become a Christian. That is not what God is talking about, here, in Romans 6.

The old self was crucified with Jesus, so that our body of sin might be rendered inoperative.....NOW WHAT FOR?

Last phrase in Vs 6..."so that you should no longer be a slave to sin." The whole issue, dear friends, is slavery...Not an individual act of sin.... BUT SLAVERY....And the Bible says that that the slave issue was broken. You see, the moment you received Jesus as Saviour you were set free. And it is stupid to walk around being a slave to sin anymore....

(2F) Then, secondly, concerning the principle of crucifixion, Vs 7 tells us about our standing before God. ~~Our standing before God.~~ Vs 7 says, "For he who has died is freed from sin."

You say, THERE! it teaches that you shouldn't ^{have} any more problems with sin. NO..NO..NO...The word "freed" is our old friend "justified." It is simply the word "justified." And notice that it is in the perfect tense.

In English if you were translating the perfect tense you would say: "HAS BEEN JUSTIFIED"....."HAS BEEN TAUGHT"....."HAS BEEN LOVED"...Whatever word you use following "HAS BEEN" SO...WHAT DO WE MEAN BY THAT?

We mean "it happened in the past and it has present results right now." ^{SC} ~~NOW~~, notice what Paul is saying in Vs 7..."HE WHO HAS DIED." He is not asking you to go out and kill yourself. You are already dead. "HE WHO HAS DIED, HAS ALREADY BEEN JUSTIFIED FROM SIN."

That is...God has already justified you from the power of sin. WHY? Because he has pronounced you righteous. And, dear friends, you cannot be any more righteous 20 years from now, then you are at the moment you receive Christ as Saviour....That is your position.....

So...why do we let sin control us?....It is a mystery to me....

(3F) The third issue concerning the principle of crucifixion, Vs 8, deals with the wonderful security that we have in all of this. Vs 8 says..."if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him."

This is not talking about the future in terms of the resurrection, or the rapture of the church. But it is talking about a continued habit of life of living, now, in the power of the resusrrrected life. You must die, first, then you are resurrected. And this all happens at conversion. That is what the Bible means by "BEING BORN AGAIN."

You see, God wants us to live, now, in the power of that new life. And this leds us to the third principle of victory over sin.

(3E) The third principle is found in Vs 9 and 10. And it is the principle of of resurrection.

(Read Vs 9-10)

Two things concerning the principle of resurrection.

(1F) Number one, Paul is telling you the facts of Christ's victory. The fact is that Jesus will die no more. Death is no master over Him. The word "master" is the word "Lord." Death is no longer Lord over Jesus.

(2F) And then in Vs 10 Paul gives us the finality of this victory. He says "he died to sin, onceonce for all"...But the life he lives, he lives to God

How Listen, closely, ~~Christians~~. *Dear friends here is the application* You

Continually living, but dieing once. do not die to sin every day... You die unto sin once just like Jesus did. Once... Now, you live in the power of the resurrection continually everyday. And this is in contrast to dieing once. Just as Christ died once.

You can never experience death again ~~to~~ the old man. Never again. Spiritual it has died. And now spiritually you are alive unto Christ Jesus.

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT? *That is the issue*

You see, in Vs 11, we find out what we must now do... Here is the key.

"Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus."

(SOFTLY)

The word "consider" ~~was pronounced~~ *Believe* means "consider it to be so."

Or, "think it to be so"... It is an attitude of the mind. Believe it to be so. Think it to be so. And it means continually. God doesn't ask you to continue to die. Because you cannot.

The ~~moment~~ moment you believe in Christ, spiritually, the old nature of sin was crucified. [But God does ask you to continually consider that to be so. You see, just like I must continually believe that when I accepted Christ, I received eternal life. I must continually believe the facts *The Gospel* So, also He is asking me to continually believe the facts that my old sin nature was crucified with Christ *and I have new life in Christ*

Oh, I see that old sin nature raring its head all the time. *So* ~~How~~, how am I going to get victory?.....Here is the answer! Let me make it personal.

For a long time I believe that I ~~had~~ *had* have the responsibility to get that old sin nature in check. Now, I know that I have a tendence to do evil. I am prograded that way, just in case you didn't know that. I am prograded to do evil. So I thought the way to check it, was my responsibility not to do certain things that I thought were bad. And so I tried not to do them. And I tried to control the old sin nature.

Do you know what happened?.....Maybe you already know.....The more I tried to control ~~it~~ *the old sin nature* the more I failed. *more First rate I became* Sometimes I wished that I had never tried...I was happier before I tried...And I became frustrated.

Then some good christian friends told me the principle of the law. ~~That~~

That the law, ~~even~~ though it doesn't save us they said, the law was given to us so that we can keep our ~~life~~ ^{old sin nature} in check. Just obey the law and you will be alright. *You will have victory over sin.*

And so I start ~~finding~~ ^{Following} all these ~~principles~~ ^{laws} of the old testament and I try to apply them to my life in order to have happiness ^{and Victory over sin}

Do you know what I found? The law is absolutely helpless to check my ~~old~~ ^{old} sin nature. Why the more law, the more scripture I learned about what not to do and what to do, and the more frustrated I became.

I am not kidding you folks, there is a lot in that Bible that we are suppose to do. And you start reading it, and God could nail you to the wall. Just wipe you out in total frustration. You read in the Bible all these things that you are suppose to do and you wonder how you are even going to remember them, let alone do them. How am I going to get this to check my ~~life~~ ^{sin nature}. And you know, one day, God told me to stop trying.

Now, that could be a real hard thing to hear. Here am I doing all this trying. I mean, first of all I really tryed to check myself. I have strong will power. God wants me to use my will. Bang, I am going to hold the old sin nature in chekk....BIG JOKE..I just got frustrated...

Then I heard about appling the principles of the law. That will work. Many great teachers moving around American are saying that right now. And it is wrong. It will never work. And the frustration grows and grows and grows. *It's why christ chugs drinks* And then finally God comes and says: "Hay, I have already told you that you are dead. So, what are you running around acting like you are alive for. Why don't you believe what I have already told you. Why don't you merely accept what I have already said.

Why don't you understand at the moement you believe all things are possible to them that believe. Whether it is receiving Christ to be in heaven forever, or, whether it is living victoriously now. It is simply believing the facts.



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You know, I am on that road with you. We are trying to have victory over sin. But I have learned that it is ~~by~~ ^{yourself,} faith. My problem is not believing God. *And that is your problem.*

When that sin becomes ~~dom~~ dominate in your life the first thing you think of is: old Romans 6 doesn't work. And that is exactly what ~~he~~ ^{God} told you to watch out for. BELIEVE THE FACTS OF THE WORD OF GOD AND YOU WILL SEE VICTORY IN YOUR LIFE.....TRUST God and not ~~yourself~~....Trust God and not the law....Trust God and God alone....He is the only ~~thing~~ ^{Person} that will work... Because you see, it is His life in you...If you are a believer, God is living in you. The spirit of God is in you..... *His Spirit Testifying With Your spirit that you are a child of God. And that is where victory is found.*

Let's close in a word of prayer