Deliverance from the Dominion of Sin

Romans 6:12–23

Introduction:

I. Sin, the Old Monarch, is Now Defeated – 6:12–14

A. A Physical Principle Involved – 6:12

“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts

Sin expresses itself through the members of our bodies.”

We teach children in simple terms: Be careful little feet where you go, be careful little hands what you do.” -- Mouth/ ears, etc

We teach adults with more profound terms: “The Three Monkeys”

How do we do that?

Unbelievers have no choice; they are slaves to sin! Believers do have a choice? - see v. 13.

B. A Moral Principle Involved – 6:13a

“And do not present your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness to sin,”

You are responsible for what your members do. As an unbeliever, you were at the mercy of sin – under the law. You can’t keep the law. So you sin. Not just you, but everyone is in that same boat: All sinned in Adam and all commit sin.

C. A Spiritual Principle Involved – 6:13b-14

1. Give in to God’s Will – 6:13b

“Present yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God”

You make this decision after salvation. Paul tells us how to present ourselves (following salvation) in Romans 12:1-2. You make the decision; I will serve sin, or I will serve God. The decision is one-time decision. From then on I face each temptation based on that decision.

I Corinthians 9:25-27

“And everyone who competes *for the prize* is temperate in all things. they *do it* to obtain a perishable crown, but we *for* an imperishable *crown*. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as *one who* beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring *it* into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified [KJV] “castaway”

Note: the subject is not salvation, but a crown.

2. Get Hold of God’s Word – 6:14a

“For sin shall not have dominion over you,”

Philippians 4:13

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

‘Never leave you or forsake you.”

“I am with you always”

3. Go On in God’s Way – 6:14b

“for you are not under law but under grace.”

Our righteousness stems not from external standards imposed from without as by law, but from an inner compulsion springing from an act of the heart.

In other words, continuing victory for the emancipated believer does not depend on his own efforts but on the abundant supply of God’s grace, sufficient for every need.

II. Sin, the Old Master, is Now Deposed – 6:15–23

When God created man He put all things under his feet (Hebrews 2 and Psalm 8). Satan stole it from man. Now we don’t see all things under him, but we see Jesus who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

A. A New Liberty – 6:15–18

1. It Begins with an Attitude – 6:15-16

“What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace?”

We have heard that heresy before in Romans - right in this chapter verse 1. Paul’s favorite strong negative is used in answer – “Certainly not!” (μὴ γένοιτο)

“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?”

Can a believer become a servant of sin? Unfortunately, yes! Spiritual death is not in question here as we will see.

2. It Ends in an Attainment – 6:17-18

“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.”

We were born slaves to sin. We were born again to righteousness when we obeyed the doctrine (Gospel) to which we were delivered.

Note: It is not as KJV “which was delivered to you.”

“And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.”

Our “bent” now is to righteousness, not to sin.

B. A New Loyalty – 6:19–20

“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 when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.”

Paul is pointing out that while we were slaves of sin, we could not do righteousness, but we cooperated willingly and enthusiastically *as slaves of sin.* Now, he is saying, “put that same enthusiasm into doing righteousness.

It seems to be a confession of Paul’s life. He calls himself “the chief of sinners” He turned out to be “chief of saints”.

C. A New Longevity – 6:21–23

1. We should be Ashamed of the Old Life – 6:21

“What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things *is* death.”

There was nothing lasting about that old life. In the end it was all headed for the ash-heap, to be burned, along with the perpetrator.

2. Now We are Assured of a New Way of Life – 6:22

a. Freedom from Sin – 6:22a

“But now having been set free from sin,”

This does not mean that we cannot sin, but that we are not slaves of sin.

b. Slaves to God – 6:22b

“and having become slaves of God,”

We are now voluntary slaves of God.

c. Fruit to Holiness– 6:22c

“you have your fruit to holiness,”

d. Everlasting Life – 6:22d

“and the end, everlasting life.”

We have experienced a total reversal of our life.

“For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Wages are earned and they come at the end of the process. The gift is not earned, but is given at the beginning of the process. So, God gives us the ability to serve Him and then rewards us for using that gift and allowing Him to work His will through us. In the end we have eternal life with Him!

Conclusion: