

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 04 Sept.....Romans 1:1-17..... Good News To Tell
- 2) 11 Sept.....Romans 1:18-3:26..... Good News to Hear
- 3) 18 Sept.....Romans 3:27-4:25..... Good News to Believe
- 4) 25 Sept.....Romans 5:1-21..... It's All About Grace
- 5) **02 Oct.....Romans 6:1-23..... It's All About New Life**
- 6) 09 Oct.....Romans 7:1-25..... It's All About Victory
- 7) 16 Oct.....Romans 8:1-39..... It's All About Certainty
- 8) 23 Oct.....Romans 9:1-11:36..... It's All About God's Plan
- 9) 30 Oct.....Romans 12:1-21..... Does Your Life Please God
- 10) 06 Nov.....Romans 13:1-14..... Can You Be Counted On
- 11) 13 Nov.....Romans 14:1-12..... Do You Respect Others
- 12) 20 Nov.....Romans 14:13-23..... Do You Strive for Peace with Others
- 13) 27 Nov.....Romans 15:1—16:27..... Does Your Life Speak Well of God?

INTRODUCTION

- The liberty we have in Christ frees us from every law (i.e., the letter of the law), yet makes us slaves to righteousness (i.e., the spirit of the law)
- An argument is made that if God can save anyone, whether they be a little sinner or a big sinner, it must take more of God's grace to save a big sinner. Therefore, is it theoretically possible to commit a lot of sins to see more of God's grace at work? The answer is YES, but Paul reasons against that philosophy – "Don't Do It!"
- Paul invokes comparative analogies to drive home spiritual truths not only to these young Roman believers but also to us. These include being dead/being alive, being buried in baptism/being resurrected, being slaves to sin/and slaves to righteousness

Passage	Comments
Romans 6:1-7	<p>Why Not Sin BIG to Receive More of God's Grace?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sinning BIG does invoke more grace from God, but also more consequences - Illustrations: Kings Saul, David and Solomon • v1. Are we to continue in sin? – This is present active deliberative subjunctive case indicating the practice of habitual sins. Simple answer is NOPE! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ What are some examples of habitual sins? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lying? Stealing? Immorality? Cursing? • We need to turn sin OFF like a light switch • vv3-7. Paul uses comparative analogies of baptism, death, burial, resurrection & slavery to avoid sin
6:8-11	<p>Dead People Can't Sin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul invokes a vivid illustration that a dead man in a casket can't sin – and that's what we should be like when it comes to sin – no response, no interest • In 1Cor 14:20, Paul uses the illustration of being like children when it comes to sin – naïve and ignorant • But, we should be energetically living for Christ
6:12-14	<p>Those Who Chose Christ Should Not Chose Sin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being cavalier or nonchalant about sin ruins people • Society has adopted a Mardi Gras mentality – sin now, ask forgiveness later • v12. To sin or not to sin is a choice we must make every moment we live in, for God tries us from moment to moment..... Job 7:18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ How long is a moment? It could be a second in a thought or it could be hours or even days as we wrestle with major and minor issues of life • v13. Every part of us (e.g., arms, legs, tongue, mind) are either tools for God or tools for the devil ➔ Let's rack up rewards for all eternity by using what God gave us for His glory

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v14. Again, sin should not master us – it's our choice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Remember what God told Cain before Cain killed his brother Abel – "If you do well, will not your attitude be improved? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is (to destroy) you, but you must master it." ... Gen 4:7
6:15-19	<p>We Become Slaves to Righteousness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v16. We are slaves no matter what. We either choose to be God's slaves or we remain slaves to something more sinister – our own cravings, lusts, addictions, debt, and eventually – slaves of Satan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Joshua said to Israel "choose you this day whom you will serve – but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord"Joshua 24:15 ♦ God eventually turned the Israelites over to their enemies as slaves because of their disobedience. In one passage God says the Jews will learn to appreciate being His slaves after considering the miserable treatment by their captors .. 2Chron 12:8 • vv17-18. Another passage highlights the Romans were once "slaves to sin" – BUT they became "obedient from the heart" – In other words, they made a decision to be a slave to righteousness • v19a. "I am speaking in common human terms because of your spiritual immaturity" – Paul comes down to their level and uses familiar analogies to convey heavenly truths to these young believers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Principle to Live By – Know your audience! • v19b. Paul's analogy of being a slave yields benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ A slave to bad things results in more bad things ♦ A slave to righteousness leads to good things ➔ Sanctification (spiritual maturity & fruitfulness)
6:20-23	<p>Freed From Sin ➔ Sanctification ➔ Eternal Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv20-21. Benefits of being a slave to Sin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ More bad things happening to you ♦ But you are free from doing righteous things ♦ The end result, however, is eternal misery in Hell • vv22-23. Benefits of being a slave to Righteousness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Sanctification leads to eternal bliss in Heaven ♦ ...and it's a free gift from God thanks to the cross

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- We should adopt the attitude of the Psalmist – "I'd rather be a doorkeeper (or a slave) in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness (with riches galore)."Ps 84:10

NEXT WEEK: Romans 7. Pat Robertson says a husband can divorce his wife if she has Alzheimer's and marry another. In contrast, Romans 7 says if a man divorces his wife and marries another while his first wife is still breathing, he becomes an adulterer. Paul uses another human analogy (not from Pat Robertson) to show the usefulness and effectiveness of the Law

