

## Sample Summary | Romans 6

### Preceding Context (Romans 5): *Redemption's Strange and Spectacular Calculus*

#### Fallen Humanity under Death's Dominion (*union with Adam by birth*)

- Historical origin of death's dominion (5:12a): one man and one act of disobedience
- Power of death's dominion (5:12b–14a): result of condemnation | sin—death—imputed sin to all human beings—death spreading to all
- Purpose of death's dominion (4:14b): progressing toward “the one who was to come”

#### Redeemed Humanity under Life's Super Dominion (*union with Christ by faith/rebirth*)

- Historical origin of life's super dominion (5:15): one man and one act of righteousness
- Power of life's super dominion (5:16–19): result of life-giving justification | free gift—imputed righteousness to all who receive the free gift—reigning in life through Christ
- Purpose of life's super dominion (5:20–21): “that grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”

### STRUCTURE (Romans 6)

#### 1. First Objection to Justification as a Free Gift

- (6:1) **Objection:** Justification by grace alone promotes sin by motivating unrighteousness so that grace will abound (see 5:20–21).
- (6:2–10) **Overruling the Objection in Principle:** *Through justification by grace, you have received a **new nature** in Christ that liberates you for practical righteousness. TRANSFORMED*
  - (6:2–5) Summary: United to Christ for Walking in Newness of Life
  - (6:6–10) Development: United to Christ for Emancipated, Everlasting Life
- (6:11–13) **Overruling the Objection in Practice:** *So, be who you now are, not who you were!*
  - (6:11) In your self-understanding
  - (6:12–13) In your mortal body
    - (6:12–13a) Not offering yourself to sin for unrighteousness
    - (6:13b) But offering yourself to God for righteousness
  - (6:14) With confidence (*compare 5:21*)

#### 2. Second Objection to Justification as a Free Gift

- (6:15a) **Objection:** Justification by grace alone promotes sin by not motivating righteousness with the law (*Torah*; see 6:14).
- (6:15b–19a) **Overruling the Objection in Principle:** *Through justification by grace, you no longer are slaves to sin but now have a **new master**: righteousness. TRANSFERRED*
  - (6:15b–16) Only Two Masters: *What you obey owns you, either sin or righteousness.*
  - (6:17–19a) Your New Master: *Your obedience-from-the-heart to God's Word and gospel shows that you have been set free from Master Sin to serve Master Righteousness.*
- (6:19b–23) **Overruling the Objection in Practice:** *So, serve your new master, not your old one!*
  - (6:19b) In your body
  - (6:20–23) With confidence (*compare 5:21*)

### UNIFYING THEME

Since everyone who receives God's free gift in Christ of justification by grace alone now is granted in Christ a new nature (*dead to sin, alive to God*) and a new master (*righteousness*), we must be who we now are (not who we once were: alive to sin, dead to God) and serve our new master (not our old one: sin).

### AUTHOR'S AIM

Paul aims to show how the gift of justification by grace does not lead to disobedience to God's Word, but rather obedience from the heart.