

## **You Are United With Christ and His Grace is Changing You (Romans 6:1-14)**

**Pastor Deric**

*(1) What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? (2) By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?*

*(3) Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? (4) We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.*

*(5) For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. (6) We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. (7) For one who has died has been set free from sin. (8) Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. (9) We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. (10) For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.*

*(11) So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

*(12) Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. (13) Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.*

*(14) For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.*

### **Practical Application**

1. Review: Getting the message of Romans to the people of the world is a matter of life & death. Let's live & serve in 2024 conscientious of the importance of spreading the Gospel (good news of Christ) to the people around us. God's grace is free, abounding, overflowing, and available to all. Embrace it & encourage others to do the same!
2. Knowing about and experiencing God's grace will not lead you to more sin, but less. God's grace is more powerful than sin. God's grace is powerfully transformative!
3. When you are united with Christ His grace changes you from the inside out.
4. God's saving grace is preparative (softening and calling), positional (regenerating and justifying), progressive (sanctifying and maturing), and final (glorifying).
5. Christian, you have died to sin, you don't live in sin.
6. Have you been baptized? Have you joined your life with Jesus? Have you experienced union with God?
7. Those who have been baptized into Christ have died with Him (surrender, repentance and faith), been buried with Him (under the water symbolizing His tomb), and raised with Him (coming up out of the water symbolizing His resurrection). Water baptism is an outward sign of an inward spiritual reality that has taken place in your heart.
8. We now live new, empowered, resurrected lives for the glory of God.
9. We have been united with Christ. We have covenant union with God. We are "married" to Christ (His bride).
10. Jesus' life, death, burial, and resurrection is our life, death, burial, and resurrection.
11. The old sin enslaved "you" has died. The new free and grace empowered "you" can live a faithful, fruitful, and flourishing life.
12. Christian, you have abundant and eternal life because of Jesus. Did you know this? Walk in it.
13. We believe! I believe! Do you believe?

14. Jesus Christ lives, and will never die again. You live, and neither sin nor death has control over you.
15. You can live for God today, tomorrow, and forever.
16. Consider (reckon) yourself at this moment dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. "I am dead to sin and alive to God." Know who you are, Christian. Living from a right identity is very important.
17. Don't let sin rule and reign in the body God has given you.
18. You don't have to be controlled by sinful passions, desires, and cravings that once dominated you. By the grace of God, say no to sin.
19. By the grace of God say yes to righteousness, moral excellence, and mature godliness. You can live right today.
20. You can change, you can live a good life, you can walk in victory.
21. You are God's instrument for good. You are a useful instrument in the Redeemer's hands.
22. Let God work for you, in you, and through you today.
23. Present yourself to God at this moment freshly.
24. You have been brought from death to life. You are not a "dead man walking" anymore. You are alive. Live!
25. You are not under the law, but under grace.
26. God's grace is greater than the law, sin, death, and the evil one.
27. You are united with Christ and His grace is changing you. Enjoy His grace today and forever!

### **Announcements**

-Global Missions Christmas Offering (Lottie Moon): \$5,000 Goal. We did it! God provided! Praise the Lord!

-Kids ministry training for the Spring will be today right after worship. Lunch will be provided.

-Wednesday Night Awana & Adult Bible Study (6:30-7:30) starts back this week (January 10th).

-Men's Ministry Dinner: Sunday, January 14, 5pm in Fellowship Hall

-Praise and Worship "New Beginnings" gathering on Wednesday, January 24 from 6:30-7:30pm

-New Members class will be on February 4 (12-1pm). You can sign up today. Lunch will be provided. See Pastor Deric or express your interest to attend by sending an email to [info@hopemountain.church](mailto:info@hopemountain.church)

-Church Work Day: Saturday, February 10, at 8am

-My favorite Bible reading plan is the "One Year Bible." Prayerfully consider reading through the Bible in 2024 in about 15 minutes per day.