

April 26, 2026

God's Good News Story: The Church Alive & Growing
Romans: For Today's World – Part 7 – Chapter 6

“Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ”

Focus: Sanctification

Paul's letter to the Romans, written around A.D. 57 while he was in the city of Corinth, Greece. It was written to a diverse group of Jewish and Gentile Christians in Rome, addresses the challenges of unity and faithfulness in a multicultural, often hostile environment. It appears that this letter was hand delivered by a faithful servant and friend of Paul, a lady by the name of Phoebe, from a nearby port city town of Cenchrea. The Letter to the Romans centers on humanity's universal need for salvation, justification by faith in Jesus Christ, the transformative power of grace, emphasizes unity between Jewish and Gentile believers and the call to live by the Spirit. “*Romans For Today's World*” highlights how these foundational truths call the modern church to embrace grace, pursue righteousness, break down barriers of division, and embody Christlike love and service in a complex world. In other words, Romans is a life changing, purpose directing book that hopefully will bring a great effect upon us today in 2026.

Background to Romans 6

Before we open Romans 6, let's remember the journey Paul has taken us on so far—The Summary is this: **Sin is the Problem, Christ is the Solution.** He fleshes this out with what I call the “**Anatomy of Salvation.**” Paul begins his letter by proclaiming the Gospel—the Good News that Jesus Christ's saving work is for all who believe (Romans 1:16). This message is not just information; it's an invitation. But the story doesn't stop at proclamation. The Holy Spirit moves, convicting hearts, awakening us to our need for rescue (John 16:8; Acts 2:37). Grace is then offered—God's unmerited favor,

making salvation available as a free gift to all (Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11). Our part? Faith and repentance—turning from sin and trusting Christ. At that very moment, Christ's propitiation (His sacrifice that satisfies God's justice) and redemption (the price paid to set us free) are applied to us (Romans 3:24–25). The Holy Spirit brings about regeneration—the new birth, making us alive to God. God then declares us justified—righteous in His sight, not because of our works, but because of Christ's finished work (Romans 3:26, 4:25). We are given a new righteousness—a new standing before God (Romans 4:3, 4:5, 4:22–24). And all of this is sealed with the security of the believer—God's promise to finish what He started.

This is the anatomy of salvation prior to Sanctification. (Note: Glorification is the final stage)

- Gospel proclaimed
- Spirit conviction
- Grace offered
- Faith and repentance
- Propitiation and redemption
- Regeneration
- Justification
- Righteousness
- Security

But salvation is not just a moment—it's a movement. Romans 6 marks a turning point: If Romans 1–5 answers, “**How can I be right with God?**” Romans 6 asks, “**Now that I am right with God, how should I live?**”

In Chapter 6, Paul introduces us to Sanctification—the ongoing process by which God makes us whole, clean, and set apart for Himself. Sanctification is not about earning God’s favor, but about living out the new identity and freedom Christ has given us. Just as we are justified by faith, so we are sanctified by union with Christ—dead to sin, alive to God.

Today, as we delve into Romans 6, we move from the **Foundation Of Salvation** to the **Transformation Of Sanctification**. Let’s discover together what it means to live as those who are not only saved, but also being made holy—set apart for God’s special purpose.

Let’s walk through Romans 6 and discover how union with Christ is the engine of sanctification—how we can live dead to sin and alive in Christ.

I. KNOW: Union with Christ—The Engine of Sanctification. Scripture: Romans 6:1–7

¹Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? ²Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? ³Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined Him in His death? ⁴For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. ⁵Since we have been united with Him in His death, we will also be raised to life as He

*was. ⁶We **KNOW** that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. ⁷For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin.*

Paul challenges the idea of using grace as an excuse to sin. **REMEMBER: We are Justified, Righteous and Secure in Christ.**

I’m not talking about Slick Slogans; I’m Proclaiming a Secure Status.

- A Different Past: Transformed by His death
- A Different Present: Modeled on His life
- A Different Future: Secured by His glory
- Paul says in **Romans 6:6**, “*Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him...*”
- The first step to victory is to **KNOW**—to understand—a fact: When Jesus died, you died with Him. When He was buried, you were buried. When He rose, you rose.
- This is not just theology; it’s your spiritual reality.
- Imagine a criminal who dies before his trial—his case is closed. The law has no more claim.
- Imagine a slave who dies—his master has no more power.
- In Christ, the penalty and power of sin are broken. Baptism is the picture: under the water, the old you is buried; then rising up from the water, you walk in newness of life.

- **Key word:** Identification. You are united with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection.

Doctrinal Subpoint:

Union with Christ is the Engine of Sanctification.

You are not justified by union; you are justified by Christ's blood and righteousness. All whom God justifies, He unites to Christ, so you share in His death to sin and His resurrection life.

Practical Application:

- When temptation knocks, don't negotiate—locate.
- Locate yourself in Christ: "I have been crucified with Christ; I am raised with Christ."
- Begin your day declaring, "In Christ, I am dead to sin and alive to God."

II. RECKON: The Mind is the Battlefield—Faith in God's Word... Scripture: Romans 6:5–11

⁵ Since we have been united with Him in His death, we will also be raised to life as He was. ⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. ⁷ For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. ⁸ And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with Him. ⁹ We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and He will never die again. Death no longer has any power over Him. ¹⁰ When He died, He died once to break the power of sin.

But now that He lives, He lives for the glory of God. ¹¹ So you also should RECKON (consider yourselves) to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.

- The 1st Step in Sanctification Was KNOW.
- The second step is to **RECKON**—to count on this fact by faith.
- "Reckon" is a bookkeeping term. It means to calculate, to bank on it, to act as if it's true because it is true.
- Feelings may say otherwise, but faith stands on God's Word. You may not feel dead to sin, but God says you are.
- Just as you trusted Christ for salvation, trust Him for victory. Every day, say, "I am dead to sin, alive to God. I count it so."
- **Key word:** Appropriation. You take what Christ has done and make it your own by faith

Doctrinal Subpoint:

The mind is a battlefield; reckoning is an act of faith.

- You don't mantra yourself into holiness; you submit yourself into obedience.
- Think God's thoughts after Him: sin's dominion is broken.
- Paul calls believers to actively resist sinful desires—not through willpower alone, but through Holy Spirit empowered grace.

- Grace is not permission; it is power.
- Grace doesn't excuse sin—it empowers believers to overcome it and live in obedience.

Practical Application:

- Write **Romans 6:11**...*So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus*, where your eyes fall daily—mirror, phone lock screen.
- When desire surges, speak Scripture out loud.
- Truth in your mouth strengthens truth in your heart.

III. YIELD: Sanctification, Submission & Consecration—

Deliberate Surrender to God Scripture: Romans 6:12–23

¹² *Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires.* ¹³ *Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, **YIELD** yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So, **CONSECRATE** your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.* ¹⁴ *Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace.* ¹⁵ *Well then, since God's grace has set us free from the law, does that mean we can go on sinning? Of course not!* ¹⁶ *Don't you realize that you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which*

leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteous living. ¹⁷ *Thank God! Once you were slaves of sin, but now you wholeheartedly **SURRENDER** and obey this teaching we have given you.* ¹⁸ *Now you are free from your slavery to sin, and you have become slaves to righteous living.*

- The third step is to **yield**—to surrender, to present yourself to God.
- Victory is not JUST knowing or reckoning but **YIELDING**—letting Christ live through you.
- When temptation comes, you will yield—to sin or to Christ. The question is, to whom?
- Yielding means dethroning sin, enthroning the Savior, and becoming a servant of righteousness.
- You can say to the devil, “I don't belong to you. I am Christ's.”
- True freedom is found in surrender to Jesus.

Remember: You will submit yourself to someone—sin or the Savior. Choose your master wisely. Everyone serves something. Freedom isn't the absence of a master; it's having the right Master.

Doctrinal Subpoint:

- True liberty is glad slavery to righteousness.
- Christ frees you from sin's wages to bind you to His will.
- His yoke is easy; His burden is light.

Practical Application:

- Change your self-talk: “I have a new Master.”
Before you open your mouth, your browser, your calendar—ask, “Does this please my Master?”
Write one “Master-pleasing” swap: music, media, money, minutes.
- Make two lists:
My members to guard” (eyes, mouth, phone, schedule) and “
My members to present” (time, skills, table, voice).
- Build two simple rules this week: one guardrail (ex. no screens in bedroom; no gossip replies) and one presentation (ex. pray-walk 10 minutes; serve a neighbor).

Summary Closure

Church, I’m not talking about slogans, I’ reminding you of your NEW STATUS.

You’re not who you were—

You’re not where you were—

You’re not what you were.

You are dead to sin,

Alive to God, United to Christ—

His death, your death;

His life, your life;

His future, your future.

So today, Don’t negotiate with temptation—locate yourself in Christ. Don’t try to feel your way into victory—reckon it true. Don’t just avoid sin—present yourself to God. Don’t chase freedom without a Master—serve the One whose yoke is easy. Don’t work for wages of death—receive the gift of life.

Let’s live Romans 6— Dead to sin, alive in Christ.

Let’s know, let’s reckon, let’s yield— And let the world see Not just a people forgiven, but a people set free.

Let me rephrase and reset Romans 6 into today’s poetic perspective:

Should we keep on sinning, So grace keeps on winning? Paul says, “No way!”

If you died to sin, How can you live in it another day?

When we put these Three Main Points together:

KNOW, RECKON, YIELD

We have the key elements for our Sanctification:

Sanctification Anatomy:

In Christ, sanctification begins with consecration—a setting apart of our lives for God’s purpose; it deepens through daily submission—surrendering our will and ways to Him; and it results in a life transformed, as God’s Spirit shapes us more and more into the likeness of Jesus.

Don't you remember—Baptized into Christ,
You joined Him in death,
Buried, then raised to new life.
The old you—crucified,
Sin's power—nullified, No longer a slave,
You're free, justified.
Christ died once, Now He lives for God's glory.
So you—dead to sin, Alive in His story.
Don't let sin reign, Don't give your body to shame.
Give yourself to God— All you are, all you have,
For you were dead, but now you live—
Use your life for what's right,
Let His glory be your gift. Sin is not your master,
Grace is your new home.
Does freedom mean license?
Paul says, "No!"
Whatever you obey, That's your true king—
Sin leads to death, Obedience brings life's spring.
Once, you were chained, Now, you're set free—
A slave to righteousness, Becoming holy.
Look back—ashamed of the old ways,
But now, you walk in God's praise.
The wages of sin is death, But the gift—eternal life,
Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, our light.

Let's Live as Those Dead to Sin,
Alive to God,
Walking in freedom,
By Grace, Through Faith,
Forever Changed.

Invitation: If you've never trusted Christ, today is the day. If you're a believer, but you've been living in defeat, it's time To Know, To Reckon, & To Yield.

References Cited

Romans 1:16; Romans 3:22–26; Romans 4:3–5, 4:22–25; Romans 6:1–23; Romans 10:17 John 16:8 Acts 2:37 Ephesians 2:8 Titus 2:11

[Complete Romans 6 scripture follows:](#)

Romans 6:1-23... ¹ Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? ² Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? ³ Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? ⁴ For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. ⁵ Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. ⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. ⁷ For when we died with Christ, we were set free from the power of sin. ⁸ And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. ⁹ We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. ¹⁰ When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. ¹¹ So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus. ¹² Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. ¹³ Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So, use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. ¹⁴ Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace. ¹⁵ Well then, since God's grace has set us free from the law, does that mean we can go on sinning? Of course not! ¹⁶ Don't you realize that you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteous living. ¹⁷ Thank God! Once you were slaves of sin, but now you wholeheartedly obey this teaching we have given you. ¹⁸ Now you are free from your slavery to sin, and you have become slaves to righteous living. ¹⁹ Because of the weakness of your human nature, I am using the illustration of slavery to help you understand all this.

Previously, you let yourselves be slaves to impurity and lawlessness, which led ever deeper into sin. Now you must give yourselves to be slaves to righteous living so that you will become holy. ²⁰ When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the obligation to do right. ²¹ And what was the result? You are now ashamed of the things you used to do, things that end in eternal doom. ²² But now you are free from the power of sin and have become slaves of God. Now you do those things that lead to holiness and result in eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. (NLT)