

ROMANS: PART 33
MARCH 24, 1996

Enslaved To Righteousness
Romans 6:15-18

Overview of Romans 6:15-18: The Doctrine of our Emancipation from Sin & Enslavement to Righteousness.

1. The Thesis: You can only serve one of two masters. Vs 15,16.
2. The Proof: You really were emancipated & enslaved at your conversion. Vs 17-18.
3. Application: Present your members to your new master. Vs 19.
4. Encouragement: Remember the fruit that each master brings. Vs 20-23.

The Thesis: You can only serve one of two masters. Vs 15,16.

1. **The Question: Shall we continue in sin? Cf. Rom 6:1**
 - ♦ The question stems from Rom 6:14. "Not under law but under grace"
 - ♦ "Sin" here refers to a life characterized by sin (not a Christian's struggles). I Jn 3:8,9.
 - ♦ "Under law" to a lost person: Unable to keep, tempted by, breaking, condemned by it.
 - ♦ A legalist's question because he doesn't understand justification (apart from works).
 - ♦ An antinomian's question he doesn't understand sanctification (a part of justification).
2. **The Answer: May it never be! Cf. Rom 6:2a.**
 - ♦ God forbid! In no way! Perish the thought!
 - ♦ You still don't understand the Gospel!
3. **The Principle: You always serve your master.**
 - ♦ Whatever master you place yourself under -- you *are* a slave to that master.
 - ♦ There are only two masters: sin & God/obedience.
 - ♦ They're in opposition: You are in one camp or another, there are no alternatives. Mt 6:24
 - ♦ Your master is evident by what you do. Lk 6:43-49; Jn 8:32-36,42-44; I Jn 1:6; 2:4
 - ♦ Forget the myth of *the carnal Christian*

The Proof: You really were emancipated & enslaved at your conversion. Vs 17-18.

1. **You were once a "slave to sin".**
 - ♦ Slave means *slave*. Bondage. You had no spiritual ability.
 - ♦ You were in bondage to your sinful nature. Job 14:4; Prov 20:9; Jer 13:23.
 - ♦ You were in bondage to sin. Jn 8:34; Titus 3:3.
 - ♦ You were in bondage to Satan. Jn 8:44; II Tim 2:24-26.
2. **But you underwent a great change in your "heart/nature".**
 - ♦ You became obedient from your heart/nature, because it was *changed* by God.
 - ♦ Ezek 37:1ff
 - ♦ Your conversion was not merely an emotional, mental, or willful thing
 - ♦ Your conversion was a merciful act of God.
 - ♦ Your conversion meant that you changed masters!

Application.

1. Don't fear! Your master loves you & will keep you, you will never be lost..
2. But worship! He drew you to Himself when you could not come.