

Romans 6:18-23

Servants Under Grace

1. 6:15 – “Shall We Sin, because we are ... under grace?”

- a. This does not ask if sin is right or wrong, but whether grace gives opportunity to sin.
- b. The grace response: know that by grace ... 1) you are no longer servants of sin; 2) you are servants of righteousness; 3) There is no fruit in sin. – see also: 1 Cor 6:12, 10:23

2. 6:16-18 – The Servant’s Identity

- a. Your identity has changed, to serve sin would be contrary to who you are now.
- b. Positional truth – A truth that does not change upon circumstances.
- c. Before grace, religious men try to put on the form of righteous works, appearance
- d. But now, under grace, a “form of doctrine” worked in you upon belief – 1 Thess 2:13
 - i. The doctrine was defined in Rom 3:21-6:14 – the grace of Jesus Christ.
 - ii. You believed grace. Now you serve grace and the righteousness it brings.
- e. Doctrine (what you know/faith) affects your mind and choices – Ti 2:11-14
 - i. It must be the right form, not any doctrinal form – 1 Tim 1:3, 2 Tim 1:13, 2:1
 - ii. Often wrong behavior under grace, due to weak/wrong doctrine – 1 Cor 15:33
 - iii. The doctrine (grace) defines the form, image – Rom 8:29, Phi 3:9-12
- f. *“being made free from sin, ye became...”* – by grace found in Jesus Christ through faith

3. 6:18-20 – The Servant’s Duty

- a. *“ye became servants...”* – ‘I thought grace meant I was free to do what I want?’ No.
 - i. Grace does what you could not to save you and put you where you should be.
 - ii. You’re not free from sin, to be free *to* sin. You’re free of one to serve another.
- b. 6:19 – *“after the manner of men”* – you can understand you a different obligation
 - i. You are now not under law, but now you are to serve in liberty - Gal 4:7-9, 5:13
- c. *“as ye have yielded...”* – Naturally, with obligation, pleasure, duty, free from right.
 - i. *“so now yield...”* – v13 speaks of whose members they are, here they have a duty
 - ii. You served sin free from righteousness. Serve righteousness free from sin.
 - iii. You can choose to do that which the Lord called you for or not – 1 Tim 2:1-4
 - iv. What constrains you? 2 Cor 5:14-15, 1 Cor 6:19-20, Rom 8:35
 - v. Victory over sin accomplished by Christ, applied with you yield to that truth.
- d. *“ye were the servants of sin”* – That died with Christ. You can now choose to do right.
 - i. When you yield your members to do the ministry of Christ you do well -Gal 6:2,5
 - ii. The world tries to justify sin by circumstances, but sinning is a conscious choice.
 - iii. We can choose some circumstances and choose what to think about others.
 - iv. In Christ by grace, we are never left under the circumstances -Rom 8:18, Col 2:10
 - v. Make no provision for the flesh by putting on Christ – Rom 13:14
 - vi. The form we are putting on here is doctrinal, and the duty is doctrinal.

4. 6:21-23 – The Servant's Fruit

- a. 6:21 - "*what fruit?*" - What is the profit, the good result of those things? None.
 - i. There is no life in sinning. Life comes by grace – it is the gift of God.
 - ii. "*whereof ye are now ashamed*" – a necessary mind under grace - Eph 5:3, 12
 - iii. Sin leads to death. You are now in the service of holiness and life.
 - iv. Sin is shameful, and does nothing to help you live, serve, or profit.
- b. 6:22 – "but now... " – one that many grace believers ignore.
 - i. "*become servants of God*" – under grace (not under law, water, willpower)
 - ii. You are God's now. You are Christ's body. You are in him. You serve the Lord.
 - iii. "*your fruit*" – is the fruit of the Spirit, the gift of God –Gal 5:22, Eph 5:9, Phi 1:11
 - iv. Can we know them by their fruit? If the fruit is the form of grace doctrine.
 - v. "holiness" – It is created that way by being in Christ with a new mind - Eph 4:24
 - vi. The fruit is a result of believing/yielding/walking in Christ, not your works.
- c. 6:23 – "*wages of sin is death*" – in Adam all die – Rom 3:10, 5:12, but now 3:20, 5:21
 - i. Servant of sin gets wages (what you deserve) = death (eternal damnation)
 - ii. Servant of God by grace gets a gift (what you don't deserve) = eternal life