

Glen Park Gospel Church  
**Tuesday Evening Bible Study Group Notes**

Rev Chris Trinham

Studies in Romans Series 4

No 10

Series 4. Living in the Spirit  
**The Way God Works**

Scripture Reading: Romans 6:1-11

Up to now we have studied what Jesus did for us on the Cross. He died for us as He took our place. It is God's gift. All God requires is that we accept His gift. Then our sin is placed upon Jesus. God sees us as though we have not sinned, but more than that He sees us in the righteousness of Jesus. We give Him our sin and are credited with His righteousness. Amazing as it is, wonderful as it is, this is not all God's plan for us. So far all He has done is to make us suitable to take part in His original plan, His purpose in our creation. God wants people who choose to participate in His salvation, fellowship and service, not to earn favour with Him, but to enjoy our heritage as members of His family.

God's plan is to work in us what He has intended to do for mankind, in Adam, at creation. He made man to be like Him, to choose to have fellowship with Him and participate in His kingdom for eternity. God is now going to teach us how to live so that we may fit into His eternal plan. Paul here shows us how to overcome sin by living in the Spirit. This study examines God's method, the next looks at our response.

What we are about to study is the mechanics of God's provision, the way God's plan works. It is not the end of the story, it is simply the 'nuts and bolts' of our salvation.

**Paul Tells Us How to Live Over the Sin Which Once Defeated Us.**

Go through this passage and underline the word 'sin' in these verses in your own Bible:

1,2,6,10,11,13,14,16,17,18,20,22,23.

Write in the margin the words 'the sin'. That's how the Greek has it. It is not just any old sin you may commit. It is the sin that put all men under the sentence of sin and death: Adam's sin. It is your part in Adam's sin. We were slaves to the sin inherited from Adam, unable to get free.

Paul here answers a question people constantly asked when told about God's grace. God's grace does not mean that we can sin with impunity, rather that we no longer need be subject to it v14.

**God's Plan to Overcome 'The Sin' in our lives is Jesus Christ, His Death and Resurrection.**

You may find this thought strange at first, but when Jesus was born of the virgin Mary He was born sinless, having never sinned, but subject to yet not enslaved by the condition of sin which is the curse of mankind. To Him sin was a potential but not inevitable event. Philippians 2:7, Hebrews 4:15. Although tempted or tested, by Satan on various occasions He did not sin. But when He died He died to 'the sin' and is no longer in that condition. Sin and death no longer have any claim upon Him. He was raised to a newness, or new kind of life.

The death he died, he died to *'the'* sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. Romans 6:10NIV  
Therefore as we are continuously identified with Him in His death and resurrection, God accords to us the victory that He has gained.

**We are baptised into His death.**

The word baptize is not translated into English, it is transliterated. That is, it is a Greek word that was given an English form because of the established Church practice of sprinkling babies. It was good politics by the translators in a day of volatile religious emotions, and the practice has been entrenched by scholars since then because many churches still sprinkle babies. Even in the Greek-English Reader's Lexicon of the New Testament the word is identified as 'to baptize, wash' In Greek it means to dip into or immerse in. The biblical method of baptism the rite is by immersion into water of the whole person and is clearly taught in Acts 8:26-40.

The thrust of the teaching here has little to do with the rite of Christian baptism. Paul is talking about our being placed into Christ, our identification with Him as our justifier. This was an immersion into His death.

**The Dead Are Separated From the Living.**

That's what death is. It is a condition of separation. Physical death is a separation of the soul from the body. Spiritual death is a separation of the person from God. The identification of the believer with Christ in His death means the believer is cut off from the former sin and self. This is Paul

We have been looking at the mechanism by which God provides the Christian with power over sin in his life. It has not been a discussion of all that we might experience. That comes later. There are still lessons to learn, but here let us explore these concepts and begin to apply them to our lives. Let us begin to live in the spirit, and rejoice in and enjoy victory over 'the sin'.

teaching here. Death is God's mechanism for dealing with the sinful nature inherited from Adam that causes us to sin.

**New Life Comes Also Through Identification With Jesus Christ in His Death.**

The two go together. You cannot live the new life in Christ without first dying to the old nature.

**The Resurrected Jesus Was a 'Different' Person.**

Jesus was still Jesus:

Look at my hands and feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see I have. Luke 24:39.

Yet He was in total mastery of the world around Him, no longer subject to the conditions that formerly limited Him. Yet Paul was interested not in the material, but the spiritual, His mastery over sin and death. It is this triumph that Jesus hands on to you and me the moment we believe in Him for forgiveness and cleansing.

**Reckon on it.**

In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Romans 6:11.

This word count means; to credit, count, reckon, regard, think or consider. It is the same word that Paul used when discussing God considering us righteous. Add it up, work it out and trust God for the overcoming life in Christ.

*Welcome*

**Glen Park Gospel Church**

Lower Road, Eltham North

**Sundays 10.30 am**

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