

I Surrender All

Romans 6:1~7, part 3

All to Jesus, I surrender; all to him I freely give. I will ever, love and trust him, in his presence daily live. I Surrender All... I Surrender All... All to thee my blessed Savior... I Surrender All...

There is **NO OTHER WAY** for man to be right with God, than to **“GIVE HIS/HER LIFE TO CHRIST!”** Jesus Christ is the Savior of all mankind...and to anyone, who will trust him with their lives, has the blessed assurance that they are right with God, and will live throughout eternity with Him!

To “*Simply Believe in Christ*” sounds almost too easy to be true... Well, that “*sets up*” what may well be one of the most miss-understood teachings in the bible. It has become “obvious” to me, over these last 14 years of studying the scripture, that there is a great confusion, as it pertains to this “*Doctrine of Grace*,” this “*Message of the Cross*” that we preach! Some have misunderstood it to mean, that submission to Christ, obedience to God as no big deal... That one can continue to live out his/her life in his own pursuits, his own ways, with no real concern for the will and ways of God in their lives...believing that Grace will take care of it...

The preaching of the Cross is a call for men to “*repent*” from their transgression against God, and to “*Give their Lives*” to Christ! Literally...one must “*Surrender his/her life*” to the service of God...

Here in chapter 6, Paul gives himself to answering two questions... Questions in regard to the “*message of Grace*” the “*message of the Cross!*” The first is found in verse 1, and the other we find in verse 15.

¹*What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*

¹⁵*What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace?*

This morning, I want us to continue in our look at the first question that Paul addresses...

¹*What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*

This question surfaces here in 6:1, as a result of what he just said back in chapter 5...where Paul reveals the function of the Law, the role it plays, in this message of Grace he is proclaiming! Paul explains, that “*the Law entered*” that SIN might abound... (5:20) That God gave the Law through Moses, to cause Israel to “*See*” their sin, to manifest that had a sin problem... Tragically, they didn’t see it that way...they saw their adherence to the Law, as what made them righteous before God. But as Paul makes “*Crystal Clear*” here, far from serving to justify a man, the Law was given to “*Expose*” a man’s sinfulness...

The purpose of the Law is fulfilled, when the one who gives himself to it, begins to see over and over his failure to “*keep the Law*”, thus causing him to “see his need” for the GRACE of God which is found in Christ Jesus!

Having explained that truth about the purpose of the Law...how it does not justify a man, that no one is able to keep it’s righteous standard (except for Christ)...knowing that, what now?

¹*What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*

When we come to the point in our lives, when we find ourselves “*guilty before God*”, condemned by God’s Law, coming to the realization of our need for Grace...does being in “*Grace*” mean that we can continue in our Disobedience to God, and it’s OK!

Do you think, that by preaching grace...that I am saying, that even though we continue to live in disobedience to God, that we will still be declared JUST on the basis of Grace?

ABSOLUTELY NOT! A question he answers with the strongest “*Negative Greek word*” in the Greek language! ²*God forbid:* There’s not the “*slightest possibility*”... It conveys the idea, that there is not even the “*slightest hint*” of yes in there! It’s the total absence of Yes, and pure no! It is impossible!

T: In **NO WAY**...does “*the message of Grace*” teach that disobedience to God is acceptable!

Paul addresses this question, knowing it is one his “*opponents of grace*” will argue! Saying that Paul is teaching that “*obedience to God*” is a non-issue, that Paul is teaching that a man can live how he wants too...that a man can live in Disobedience to God, and that “With Grace” it’s OK!

An understanding that is not foreign to the minds of many... I’m convinced, that there is a great number in the “*Church*” that has that very same view of Grace. In that, obedience and service to God is no big deal... But Paul’s answer is clear... (²*God forbid:*) “*nothing could be farther from the truth...*”

I’m convinced that this “*deadly thinking*” comes as a result of misunderstanding the “*role the Law plays...*” in the “*salvation of the human soul...*”

The message of Grace declares, that God gave the Law not so we could “*be obedient to it*” and be justified before him, but for the sole purpose of manifesting our sin! If there’s no standard, one would never know that he fell short of it...right? So God gave the Law, to help us see, that through trying to keep its requirements, we’d see our transgressions, and our guilt...

T: **But, IN NO WAY** can we continue to live in disobedience to God!
All that means is that *our obedience to the LAW* is not the means of our justification...

God simply used The LAW to reveal our “*problem,*”then gave us the CROSS to show us **the answer to our problem!**

Q: *God forbid...* How can you even entertain the thought, that disobedience to God is acceptable?
Isn’t it because of man’s “Disobedience” that the wrath of God abides on Him?

Far from saying that it is ok for a man to continue in his SIN, the message of grace points men to the ANSWER for men’s sin! By exhorting all men to turn from the Law, and turn to Christ!

The “*Message of Grace*” only points out that we no longer seek to be right with God by our *obedience to the Law...*but rather now we turn to the one, true source of justification with God...*obedience to Christ!*

T: In order to be JUST with God, the gospel demands that we “*Surrender our lives*” to Christ!

Far from saying you can “*live how you want too*”, the message of Grace says you must “*lay down your life!*”

(Vs 2~4) ²*God forbid. How shall we, that are **dead** to sin, live any longer therein?* ³*Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his **death**?* ⁴*Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into **death**: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

Some use this passage to teach “*Baptismal Regeneration!*” But that is not the case at all... The context of the passage is not “*Water Baptism*”, but the context of the passage is “**DEATH...**”

The *message of grace* is “**You must GIVE YOUR LIFE to Christ**” if you want to live...

The “Key” to this passage...the entire POINT is “*Our death in Christ...*”

Paul mentions this word in one form or another *16 times* in 13 verses...

In answering the question stated in verse one, Paul just explains what the “*gospel*” is all about!

It is one of the best definitions of what it means to have “*Faith in Christ!*” This passage speaks to the “*Life of the Just...*” *the just shall live by....Faith...* This passage speaks to the “*New Life*” we now possess in Christ Jesus...a life of “TRUE OBEDIENCE” in that we die to our own will and ways, and conformance to the law, giving our allegiance to Christ.

(Vs 15~23) The Life we are LIVING reveals *who we are ALIVE to...*

This passage speaks to “*obedience, submission*”...

In these 23 verses, Paul refers to a form of that word some **17 times**. (*servants, yield, obey*)

¹⁵*What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.*

¹⁶*Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? ¹⁷But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. ¹⁸Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.*

A man can not live to his own will and ways, and expect that Grace will take care of it...

The Gospel is a call to “*Surrender our Life*” to Christ...

We must “*Give our Life*” to Him...

It becomes *imperative* that we understand this “*Truth*” Paul is teaching here... For where one spends eternity, rest in this truth... The promise of eternal life “*Hinges*” on whether or not a man is identified with the “*Death of Christ!*” Paul makes it clear, our identity with Christ, is in His death!

⁵*For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:*

Notice... The promise of the gospel is provisional...

To receive the life Christ gives...requires that we give ours up!

It is impossible to “*live two separate lives...*” I will either “keep mine” and live for self, or I will “*surrender my life to Christ*” and live it unto Him! Only those who trust Christ as Lord and Savior will be saved... One can “*know*” a lot about Christ...but that’s not enough... We must FOLLOW HIM! And as Paul so clearly reveals here, to follow Christ, is to go by the way of the Cross!

Our problem is, that our SIN has separated us from God... Our “*Transgressions, our Disobedience to God and Obedience to self...*” The “*Creature*” no longer serves the “*Creator!*”

Instead of humbling ourselves in submission to God, we have taken residence on the throne of our own hearts! And listen...if we die in that condition, we will leave this world separated from God, for eternity!
God is too be the God of my heart...not ME...

That’s why Jesus came... To bring us back to a right relationship with God...to put God back on the throne! And the only way that can ever happen, is for the one that is in power now, be removed! Before I came to Christ, I was Lord of my own life... But through the gospel, I realized my

condition...and called out to Christ to save me. I found, that through the message of Christ, that the way to live is to die! The way to be “*right with God*” is to be “*wrong with me...*”

Christ not only died on the cross to atone for our sins...but to also SHOW US the way to God! We must “*Crucify the FLESH!*” We must die to SELF!

⁶*Knowing this, that **our old man is crucified with him**, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.*

I cannot stress enough, the importance of understanding the truth that Paul is declaring here... Just to make sure no one misunderstands him on the matter, just to make sure there is no confusion in the answer to his question, Paul sums it all up, with a very simple, clear statement...

⁷*For he that is **dead is freed from sin**.*

It that simple, short little statement...Paul sums up God’s plan of salvation! How God has chosen to SAVE men from sin... Through the “*Way of the Cross...*”

Jesus said...*If any man come after me, let him deny himself, take up the cross and follow me.*

(Ga. 2) ²⁰*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

¹*What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*

⁷*For he that is **dead is freed from sin**...*

T: Grace is not “*Freedom TO sin*”...but “*Freedom FROM sin!*”

It’s the **ONLY WAY** a man can be saved!

There is NO OTHER WAY for man to be right with God, than to “**GIVE HIS/HER LIFE TO CHRIST!**”

Make no mistake...

*Whosoever shall “**Save His Life**” shall “**Lose It...**”*

*Whosoever shall “**Lose His Life**” for my sake...shall “**Find It...**”*

Jesus is Lord... The life and death question, the question that will determine our destiny for eternity is this... Is Jesus Lord of your Life?