



LIVE LIKE WE ARE HIS

Romans 6:19-23

July 4, 2021

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Good morning church! Happy Fourth of July, our Independence for American Freedom. Last week, we studied how God's grace is greater than our sin and actually frees us from sin. In verse 14, we see the Christian is not under the law but under grace. God's law is perfect and useful for exposing our sin and condemns us to the reality of consequences that is against God's glorious standard. Therefore, Christ's abundant grace frees us from our sin and also the law. This might appear to provide a license for moral carelessness. However, Paul denies this, since under the reign of grace Christians have become slaves of God, meaning we are still held accountable and responsible for who we are and what we do in Jesus Christ. We are not our own, nor do we belong to the world. We are not slaves to sin or to the law, but we are now slaves to God. In Romans 6, Paul reminds his readers of their past slavery to sin & their new slavery to righteousness. Paul wants us to live in submission to our new master, Jesus Christ, & not be entangled with the sins of the past.

Romans 6:19-23,

*"What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! **16** Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? **17** But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, **18** and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. **19** I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification. **20** For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. **21** But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. **22** But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. **23** For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

1. We Become SLAVES to Whatever We Choose to OBEY. (v. 16-19)

*“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery.” **Galatians 5:1***

- Your freedom is so YOU CAN serve God.

*“For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, 14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.” **Hebrews 9:13-14***

2. NEW BELIEVERS Have an Innate Desire to KNOW and OBEY God’s Word. (v. 17)

- Christians LIVE, not by being perfect, but by being FORGIVEN.

3. The Benefit of Being SLAVES to God is Being SANCTIFIED. (v. 20-23)

- The outcome of our FREEDOM in Christ is ETERNAL LIFE.