



## GRACE IS GREATER THAN OUR SIN: Part 1 & 2

*Romans 5:20-6:14*

**June 20 & 27, 2021**  
**Pastor Trevor Cooper**

Good morning church! Happy Father's Day! Last week, our Southern Baptist Churches & Convention leaders gathered in Nashville, TN to worship, connect, and make some important decisions on issues our American culture is facing today such as:

1. **Critical Race Theory** is driving much of the racial divides we are experiencing. CRT states that individuals can be prejudice and can discriminate, but the demographic which is in power is inherently racist because of the natural choices of how they think things should be done puts others at a disadvantage. They remove racism from an individual issue to a cultural issue which is where they get the declaration that we are systematically racist. Biblically, we would see this as an individual and heart issue connected to sin; but CRT states we cannot repent from this, it is just who we are and we are all guilty. Critical Race Theory is incompatible with Scripture and with our Belief Statement as a Church and as Southern Baptists. There is increasing pressure on Pastors, especially African American pastors, to pull out of SBC.
  - **Pray for people to not be deceived by cultural movements that give no hope of repentance or true solution to the problem of sin, but they turn to the Lord God and support each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.**
2. **Intersectionality** espouses the idea that the more disadvantaged you are, the more aware of the need for change you are. This is where the Woke Movement came from, dissenting groups like LGBTQ, women's activists, ANTIFA, and Black Lives Matter is part of this Cancel Culture that we are facing; "If you don't understand, you don't matter". Our young adults, who are millennials and Gen Z, are growing up in a world where this is considered normal to advocate for these kinds of changes instead of relying on the teaching of Scripture.
  - **Pray for churches and their leaders to teach the reliance on the Word of God that never changes instead of advocating for unbiblical cultural changes.**
3. **Complementarianism**, which is a broad term, that currently focuses on the issue of women in ministry, specifically the issue of women pastors. Beth Moore's decision to leave the SBC and Saddleback ordaining 3 women as pastors has caused this to resurface bringing a divide in opinion among our national as well as local leaders. To some, this issue is specifically spelled out in Scripture; while others believe the Bible is vague as the only pastors in the first century would have been what we understand to be senior pastor or teaching pastors. In the past, we have used terms like "ministers" to avoid such controversy.
  - **Pray that Christians, especially the younger people, would see this as a Biblical issue and not a poor optic with our culture that only sees it as a gender issue.**

## **Romans 5:20-6:14,**

*"Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, **21** so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**6** *What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? **2** By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? **3** Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? **4** We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. **5** For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. **6** We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. **7** For one who has died has been set free from sin. **8** Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. **9** We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. **10** For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. **11** So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. **12** Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. **13** Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. **14** For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace."*

### **1. God's Grace is GREATER Than Our SIN. (v. 5:20-21)**

*"Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. **24** So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith." **Galatians 3:23-24***

### **2. God's Grace FREES Us from Sin, but Does Not Allow Us to Sin FREELY. (v. 6:1-7)**

*"Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, **10** nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. **11** And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."*

**1 Corinthians 6:11**

*"Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, **26** that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, **27** so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish" **Ephesians 5:25-27***

*"I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, **13** though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. **1 Timothy 1:12-13***

### **3. God's Grace Brings Death to Sin and LIFE in God. (v. 6:8-11)**

*"he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit" **Titus 3:5***

*"In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, **14** who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory. **Ephesians 1:13-14***

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." **1 Corinthians 5:17***

*"For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit" **1 Peter 3:18***

*"and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator." **Colossians 3:10***

### **4. God's Grace Helps Us RESIST Sin and Transforms Us Into the LIKENESS of Christ. (v. 6:12-14)**

*"Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel." **Philippians 1:27***

The controlling principle in the life of the believer is the reign of grace that sets us free from the reign of sin. If we continue in our sin, this contradicts the Christian's new identity in Christ. We are under the authority and reign of grace that saves us forever and sanctifies us now. Therefore, sin is no longer our master!