

Unashamed The Book of Romans

HEAR IT

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READ IT

Romans 6:15-23

Key Verses:

“What then? Are we to sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means!” (6:15)

“For when you were slaves to sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. 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. But now you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit that leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.”

6:20-22

REVIEW IT

Paul asks a rhetorical question: Does grace encourage the believer to sin or keep on sinning? By no means! is the answer. One you have become a Christian- given yourself to Jesus Christ- you are his. Conversion to being a Christian involves 4 stages:

- 1) You used to be slaves to sin. All people are either slaves to sin or God; being born again is transference from one to another.
- 2) You whole-heartedly obey Christ's teaching.
- 3) You have been freed from sin and its hold over you. You have been rescued from the lordship of sin and brought under the lordship of God through Jesus Christ.
- 4) You have become slaves to righteousness.

The PARADOX: Slavery is freedom and freedom is slavery.

Each slavery presents a kind of freedom; one is authentic, the other is fake.

Each freedom is a kind of slavery, one uplifting, the other degrading.

The way to assess their rival claims is to examine their benefit, their fruits.

The negative benefits of slavery to sin and freedom from righteousness are remorse and guilt over the things you are now ashamed of, a freedom which leads to death.

The positive benefits of freedom from sin and slavery to God are sanctification in the present and eternal life in the end, a bondage which leads to life.

DISCUSS IT

Are you a slave to sin or a slave to righteousness?

How can you be a slave to sin?

How can you be a slave to righteousness?

What is the difference between being a slave to righteousness through doing good things and being a slave to righteousness living out the love of Christ because of what He has done for you by dying for your sins and giving you spiritual freedom?

PRAY IT

Dear Lord, Thank you for going to the cross for me and for overcoming death so that I can overcome sin and be a slave to righteousness. Thank you for eternal life. Help me develop a heart that serves you out of love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

APPLY IT

Do you ever keep a journal? Start a journal and write your praise and thankfulness to the LORD for giving you spiritual freedom! Write down the ways you are thankful for being "a slave to righteousness" and what that looks like in your life.