Twelve Lessons

on

Romans II

(Chapters 6-10)

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THE DOCTRINE OF SANCTIFICATION - PART I - LESSON 1

Romans 6:1-10

<u>Introduction:</u> We are moving into a new doctrine, the doctrine of sanctification. While justification can only declare a man righteous, sanctification makes the justified man holy. Although justification and sanctification cannot be separated, they can be studied separate. Justification deals with the guilt of sin while sanctification deals with the power of sin. No matter what the sin is, grace is greater than the sin in that God not only justifies but gives sufficient grace to overcome the sin. In the case of the drunkard, God not only forgives but gives grace to overcome the addiction. Rom. 5:20 – "But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."

Lesson Goals:

- 1. To study the abuses of grace, one is giving a license to sin because of salvation by grace.
- 2. To report that knowledge is a key argument for grace.

Definitions of Important Terms and/or Phrases:

- 1. Grafted Grafting is the process in horticulture by which a portion of a plant is made to unite with another plant, whether of the same kind or of another variety or species. The apostle Paul makes use (Rom 11:17-24) of this figure in a striking manner: he compares the Jewish theocracy to a good olive tree, the Gentiles to a wild one, of which a branch is engrafted upon the former, and which by that means it acquires fruitfulness. (The New Unger's Bible Dictionary).
- 2. Knowledge The truth or facts of life that a person acquires either through experience or thought. The greatest truth that a person can possess with the mind or learn through experience is truth about God (Ps 46:10; John 8:31-32). This cannot be gained by unaided human reason (Job 11:7; Rom 11:33). It is acquired only as God shows Himself to man-in nature and conscience (Ps 19; Rom 1:19-20); in history or providence (Deut 6:20-25; Dan 2:21); and especially in the Bible (Ps 119; Rev 1:1-3). (Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary).

I. ABUSES OF GRACE – Rom. 6:1-2

- **A.** Paul's Anticipation Vs. 1 "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?"
 - 1. Here is the age old argument If I believe the sinner is saved by grace alone with no works, then I believe he has a license to sin.
 - 2. Many fail to understand the difference between our standing and our state, our position and our experience.
 - 3. Some even teach that since God forgives the worst of sins, every person should become extremely wicked to give God greater opportunity to manifest His grace.
 - 4. Note: F.F. Bruce, in his commentary on Romans 6, points out that the Russian monk Rasputin, the evil genius of the Romanov family in its last years of power, actually practiced this idea. He lived in gross sin, contending that each time he repented he experienced the mercy of God in greater measure than if he had not sinned.
- **B.** Paul's Answer Vs. 2 "God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?"
 - 1. There are three views dealing with sanctification; two are wrong and one is right.
 - a. View number 1 Salvation has nothing to do with sanctification, so the believer has to keep the law to be holy. This doctrine is contrary to the Word of God.
 - b. View number 2 Salvation does make the believer live holy but he falls short many times. So they defend the teaching of mysticism. In this teaching, they talk about "dying to self." This doctrine is contrary to the clear teaching of the Word of God. Paul does not say we are "dying to self" but we are "dead to sin."
 - c. View number 3 Justification is vitally connected to sanctification. Paul asks, "How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" The Bible teaches that we have died to sin.
 - 1) The death of the believer is a thing that is in the past. It is a transaction that is complete.
 - 2) I John 3:9 confirms this "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin." The believer does not continue sinning.
 - 2. This is a contradiction to the modern theory of "repenting after one gets saved." Paul does not mean the believer will experience a gradual overcoming of various sins. Paul declares that a Christian cannot live under sins control, or be totally subject to its rule, for he is now identified with Jesus Christ.
 - a. The believer is "dead to sin" Once he was "dead in sin" but he is "out of sin" as much as he was "in

sin."

b. The believer no longer answers to sin, he is dead. One can call, command, or kick a dead corpse but it will not answer.

II. ARGUMENTS FOR GRACE – Rom. 6:3

- A. Knowledge is a Key Factor in a Life of Victory Vs. 3, 6, 9 Knowledge is putting "light" upon the subject.
 - 1. "Know" that you are "baptized" Vs. 3 Notice the present tense of the verb.
 - a. Kenneth Wuest has a helpful comment on this verse. "The word 'baptized' is not the translation of the Greek word here, but its transliteration, its spelling in English letters. The word is used in the classics of a smith who dips a piece of hot iron in water, tempering it; also of Greek soldiers placing the points of their spears, in a bowl of blood."
 - b. "Baptizo", 'the introduction or placing of a person or thing into a new environment or into union with someone else so as to alter its condition or its relationship to its previous environment or condition.'
 - c. This is exactly what the Bible teaches when one becomes "born again" and comes into union with Jesus Christ. It alters his condition; it changes his relationship to what he used to be.
 - d. I Cor. 10:2 "And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea." This meant that their old relationship to Pharaoh and Egypt was ended, and that Moses was now their new leader and Canaan their new home.
 - 2. "Know" that you are "buried" Vs. 4-5
 - a. "*Planted*" is to be "completely united together." The word describes the procedure of grafting a branch into another tree. We were "in Christ" when He died for us and "as us." We were buried with Him and when He arose, we were resurrected with Him.
 - b. So far as God is concerned, we are already on the resurrection side of the grave. All we must do is "know" this truth and adopt it.
 - 3. "Know" that you are "crucified" Vs. 6 "*Know*" in verse 3 is to know through information while "*know*" in Vs. 6 is to know by experience.
 - a. Positionally, in verse 3, in the mind of God, the old man is crucified, but the believer must make this good in experience. Bible doctrine is not just rules but reality. What good is a Bible teaching if it doesn't work for me? "Our old man" or our lost condition, when we stood condemned as members of the sinful human race, is judged by God to have ended when Christ was crucified. Illustrate: Look at a corpse. It does not matter how great a sinner that corpse was, it is now free from sin. A corpse may have had an addiction to liquor or drugs but it no longer craves them.
 - b. Col. 3:9-10 "Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him." Notice, "renewed in knowledge," is the victory.
 - c. Our "old man is crucified" but does not "feel dead" but that is quite beside the point, God says it is!!
 - d. Illustrate: Have you ever set your alarm clock for six o'clock and when it alarmed, you said, "It does not feel like six o'clock." Here's the point! It doesn't matter what you "feel", time is determined by the earth's rotation and that determines the time, not your feelings. God says you are "crucified" and the whole plan of redemption declares it to be a fact!
 - e. The "body of sin" is that past union between sin and death, which, as a dictator, held us in slavery. But he has been "destroyed". The word translated "destroyed" is katargeo, which means "done away" or "rendered inoperative." In the natural world a dead man can no longer sin or be held legally answerable for his sins. There is a law of "double jeopardy" which states that a person cannot be tried a second time for an offense he was acquitted of at a previous legal trial. Double jeopardy is prohibited by the Constitution. At Calvary, Jesus paid our sin debt and we died with Him. The Constitution of Heaven will not permit us to be TRIED AGAIN!
 - f. "Destroyed" Literally means to work down, exhaust. We must all acknowledge that the "old man" is still around but through the death of Christ, the sin principle is powerless, impotent, sterile, barren, paralyzed, and rendered inactive. God has made the "old man" an invalid and he's walking around but "he's on crutches."
 - g. Vs. 7 "For he that is dead is freed from sin." In Rom. 7:2, the same Greek word is translated "loosed." Rom. 7:2 "...but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband." She is "free" to marry again because her husband's death made the law's authority null and void. The law

is still there but she is not under its rule.

B. Knowledge is a Key Factor in a Life of Security

- 1. "Know" that you are "resurrected" Vs. 9-10
 - a. Proof Text for Eternal Life, the security of the Believer Vs. 9 "Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him."
 - b. If He does not die anymore, do we? Absolutely not! The church has a wrong concept of Jesus. He is not a babe in a manger, or a body on a cross. He is alive from the dead and forever beyond the power of death.
 - c. "Death hath no more dominion over him." He is out of death's jurisdiction. He doesn't live in that town, state, country, or world anymore.
- 2. "Know" that you are "ambassadors" II Cor. 5:20 "...we are ambassadors for Christ" Any ambassador to the United States has extraterritorial privileges. What does that mean? He is outside the laws of the country that he is in. We can't arrest him, try him, or sentence him. The only country that can is the country he's from.

Conclusion: Our biggest problem as believers is a lack of knowledge of what we have in Him. Too many Christians are "betweeners": they live between Egypt and Canaan, saved but never satisfied; or they live between Calvary and the Resurrection, believing in the Cross but not entering into the power and glory of the Resurrection.