

Comments About Romans 6

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Feb. 17, 2018.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Recently, I began a series of brief articles to discuss chapters in the book of Romans. This week, we will talk about chapter 6.

May this project encourage you to the valuable history found in the book of Romans.

Follow-up question

Many years ago, the letters in the New Testament of the Bible were organized as chapters. The last part of chapter 5 mentioned a connection between law and grace.

■ Paul described a true connection between law and grace—the law identified abundant sin and paved the way for abundant grace (verse 20-21).

Many Bible students believe that Romans 6:1-2 is a follow-up to the concluding verses of chapter 5.

Romans 6:1-2—"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?"

Death and resurrection

The apostle Paul described how baptism pictures the death and resurrection of the Son of God (verses 3-6).

■ Are you aware that those who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death (verse 3)?

■ Just as the Son of God was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, disciples should also walk in newness of life (verse 4).

■ Just as disciples are planted in the likeness of His death, they certainly shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection (verse 5).

Romans 6:3-5—"Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection."

- Just as the “old man” of each disciple is crucified with the Son of God, they should no longer be slaves to sin (verse 6).

Dead to sin

Paul proceeded to discuss the concept of being dead to sin and alive in God (verses 7-14).

- He who has died has been freed from sin (verse 7).
- He who has died with Christ shall also live with Him (verse 8).
- Death no longer has dominion over a disciple (verse 9).
- Christ died to sin once for all, and He lives to God (verse 10).
- Disciples should consider themselves dead to sin and alive to God (verse 11).
- Therefore, disciples should not allow sin to reign in their mortal bodies (verse 12).
- Disciples should be instruments of righteousness instead of instruments of unrighteousness (verse 13).
- Sin should not have dominion over a disciple, since he is under grace (verse 14).

Analogy of a slave

- Paul asked another question similar to verse 1 (verse 15).

Romans 6:15—“What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!”

- Are you a slave to sin and death or a slave to obedience and righteousness (verses 16-22)?
- Paul used the physical metaphor to describe a spiritual concept (verse 19).
- In the last verse in chapter 6, Paul described an amazing concept (verse 23).

Romans 6:23—“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”