

Romans 6:1-11, Part 1
Speaker: Dr. Wesley G. Rowe
Calvary Bible Church

According to God, every person's most pressing need is righteousness.

Righteousness means "conformity to God's standard".

God's standard is made known to us in His Word, the Holy Bible. We often find the standard expressed in the form of commands similar to these: "Thou shalt do this . . ." or "Thou shalt not do this . . ." Because the standard has many commandments, the standard is referred to as God's "law" or God's "will" for how created beings are to live.

God's standard (His law) is a reflection of God Himself, His moral and perfect excellence, and therefore cannot be changed without God Himself changing, which is impossible.

The standard tells us how we are to live our lives because God created us and it is His desire that our lives glorify and reflect Him as our Creator.

None of us conform to God's standard. This means that we have no righteousness of our own.

Because of this lack of righteousness, God is angry with us and cannot bear to accept us.

We came to this deplorable condition through the sin of one man, Adam. As the first human, God assigned him the responsibility to represent the human race. Adam sinned and in so doing brought sin, condemnation and death into the whole human race.

At a later time, God spoke the Mosaic law and had it written down so that people would know how to live in a way that pleased God. But when the law was given to Moses, trespasses (sins, "crossing over the line") increased as humans broke more and more of God's law.

God has done a most wonderful thing. He took it upon Himself to make a righteousness available to sinners which when received eventuates in peace between God and man.

The righteousness that God provides is a "foreign" righteousness, an "alien" righteousness; it is the righteousness of Jesus Christ.

God sent His Son to the earth to live as a human. The Bible calls Jesus "the last Adam" (I Cor. 15:), for He too would represent the human race. Jesus was placed under the laws of God for 33 years and He never broke even one of God's commands. As a perfect person, He had no sentence of death upon Himself, yet He voluntarily chose to take the punishment of death that was due others upon Himself. As a sure sign that the Father was pleased with the obedient life of His Son and the substitutionary death, the Father brought His Son forth from death. In the resurrection, Jesus triumphed over sin and death.

The good news ("GOSPEL") is that the perfect, righteous accomplishments of Jesus Christ are now made available to sinners. God is willing to impute ("put to sinner's account") the accomplishments of Jesus.

The righteousness from God is received any time that a sinner places faith in Jesus Christ. The righteous life that Jesus lived while on earth is declared to belong to the sinner and the sins of the sinners, all of them-no matter how many or how great-are declared to belong to Christ.

When the righteousness from God is received through faith, the sinner stands in a new relationship with God that can never be lost for forfeited. The sinner is now declared to be “just” in the courtroom of heaven. The sinner is forever, from the moment of faith on, looked upon as righteous in God’s eyes. And the sinner is indeed righteous because He has been freely given the righteousness of Jesus!

6:1, “What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning that grace may increase?”

6:2. “By no means!
We died to sin.”

Two emphases that the Scriptures have when they speak of Christians as being dead to sin or as already having died to sin.

1.) POSITIONALLY, we died to the AUTHORITY (PENALTY) of sin when by faith we received Christ, our New Representative, who went to the cross for us.

2.) EXPERIENTIALLY, we died to the POWER/CONTROL of sin when by faith we received Christ, our New Representative, who instantly gave His Holy Spirit.

At salvation, God not only gave us Jesus permanent gift of righteousness making it certain that we are now accepted of Him and most assuredly will go to heaven, but God also did something IN believers to destroy the reign and power of sin and to make it possible for believers to live a life of righteousness.

Romans 6:2

Romans 6:5-6

Romans 6:8

Romans 6:14

Romans 6:20-22

Romans 7:5-6

Romans 8:9

Romans 8:10-11

II Pet. 1:3-4