

“De-Christianizing” The Gospel

(Part 6 – Exposing Antinomianism and Advocating a Proper View of Grace)

Passage: Romans 6:1–14

Introduction

- Antinomianism: the view that Christians are freed by grace from the necessity of obeying the Law.
- The antinomian cannot bear to hear the Law, so he pretends that God does not require obedience to it. The consequence is a person who claims to be a Christian, and may even be religious, but is lives life contrary to God’s commands.
- The antinomian should not be defined as someone who struggles with sin but as someone who doesn’t care about what God commands. They accept God’s grace so they can hopefully go to Heaven, but they live antithetical to God’s commands and are apathetic about personal holiness and living righteously.
- Romans 6:1–14 emphasizes why grace and sin do not complement each other. This passage of Scripture serves as a death knell to antinomianism because it exposes the attitude behind willful sin and the transformation of God’s grace when a person is genuinely saved.

I. Grace Does Not _____ Sin – vs. 1–2

II. Grace Enables Identity with Christ – vs. 3–10

A. Identity with Christ brings identity with his death – vs. 3–4a, 6–7

i. Identity with Christ’s death destroys sin’s _____ over us – vs. 6a

ii. Identity with Christ’s death breaks sin’s _____ over us – vs. 6b–7

B. Identity with Christ brings identity with his resurrection – vs. 4–5, 8–10

i. Identity with Christ’s resurrection brings spiritual _____ – vs. 4

ii. Identity with Christ’s resurrection brings us under the _____ of Christ – vs. 8–10

III. Grace Changes a Person’s Perspective on Identity and Sin – vs. 11

IV. Grace Brings Freedom from Sin’s _____ – vs. 12–14

A. Submitting to sin is a choice for the believer but the only way of life for the unbeliever.

B. When believers submit to sin, they are choosing to allow sin to _____ over them as they willfully submit to sin’s dominion – vs. 12

i. Choosing sin over obedience to Christ appears like an external factor. However, the real choice behind it all is one of faith and love.

1. Choosing to sin is trusting in something antithetical to Christ for satisfaction and happiness (it’s essentially calling God a liar).

2. Choosing to sin is using the freedom one receives from God's grace to "freely" serve and enjoy what Jesus Christ died for on the cross. This reveals a heart that is in love with something that is incompatible with loving Christ.
 - ii. Choosing to sin is willfully deciding to surrender to evil as a _____ and let it have its way in your life.
- C. Grace enables the believer to choose obedience and righteousness to the glory of God – vs. 13
- i. Choosing righteousness and obedience to Christ reveals a genuine _____ in God and his Word.
 - ii. Choosing righteousness and obedience to Christ reveals a genuine _____ for God.
- D. Grace brings freedom from all aspects of sin's dominion – vs. 14
- i. Grace brings freedom to the mind
 - ii. Grace brings freedom to the heart
 - iii. Grace brings freedom to the _____

Application to Evangelism

1. When people claim to be Christians but live disobediently to God's commands, we must expose this contradiction. If they believe they are saved yet seek to justify their sin, this passage of Scripture may be helpful. We must communicate that grace is not a license to sin; grace brings _____ from sin.
2. When people claim to love God but live disobediently to God's commands, we must also expose this contradiction. It may be helpful to appeal to Jesus' own statements on the matter. In John 14:15, Jesus declares, "If you love me, then keep my commandments." Help the antinomian see that those who God's grace has saved have a new _____ to obey God's commands and a desire not to sin.
3. It is also important to remember that unbelievers, regardless of whether they think they are Christian or not, are under the dominion of sin. They are slaves to sin in mind, heart, and will. They are not capable of living righteously; therefore, our response should be the following:
 - (1) We should have _____ for them.
 - (2) We should _____ for the Holy Spirit to prepare their hearts to receive the gospel.
 - (3) We should be faithful in giving them the gospel.
 - (4) We should be faithful to living out God's grace in our lives as a _____ to God's sanctifying power.