

ROM 2:11 - Our Position "IN CHRIST" - Rom 6:1-14

We've been looking at our Justification by faith alone
for the past 10 MSG'S

& now (finally) it's time to put that Justification by Faith Alone
TO WORK

Justification - is being Declared Righteous before God

& we are Declared Righteous before God
because of our Identification with Christ

& our Identification with Jesus Christ
that brings our Justification before God
is actually the Foundation - for everything else in the Christian Life

& if we will Grasp - THAT miraculous KEY
everything else in the Christian Life will fall in place

Today - we are going to BUILD on
the Foundation
of our Identification
that brings Justification
& today we're going to add - Sanctification

Sanctification is a Big Bible word that means;
Our NEW LIFE in Christ

& the reason I'm using all these Big Bible words
is to make it clear - →

that **EVERTHING** in our Christian Life **BEGINS**
with the *Foundation* - of our *Identification IN CHRIST*
Including - all the way up to - our **Glorification**

I know I'm **making you crazy** with all these **BIG WORDS**
But the **BIG POINT** of the message today is

Our **Salvation** & Our **Sanctification** - **ARE INSEPERABLE**

because they both come from
our **IDENTIFICATION** with Jesus Christ

& Jesus Christ **does not offer one** without the **other**

If we **truly surrender** our Life to Jesus Christ as Savior & Lord
then that **ONE ACT** of *Identification* with Him

BOTH Saves us from the Judgment of God

AND replaces our old life of *Sin & Death*
with **HIS New Life** of *Peace & Righteousness*

We are **dead to Sin** thru our **Identification** with Christ

& **thru that SAME** identification
we are **ALSO** raised to *New Life In Christ!*

Let's Pray

Romans has made the truth of Justification by faith alone
so completely clear - there has been No Room for doubt

In Fact - Paul has made this case so strong
that he "senses" a crazy argument growing in his listeners

& the fact that he would have to even deal
w/ this type of argument is PROOF
of how hard he has addressed Justification by FAITH ALONE

Here's the "anticipated argument" - in Rom 6:1

Rom 6:1 - ESV

1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?

Because Paul has made it SO CLEAR
that NO Works can merit Salvation
He anticipates this crazy response

if Paul had taught even a mixture of Faith & Works
this crazy question would never be asked

But it's such a BIG anticipated response
that Paul addresses it 3 times in this context

In Ch 3 – he dealt with it the first time
& he condemned those who would even think like this

Here – in 6:1 - he begins our text with it
& again in 6:15 – He begins next week's text the same way

So - He anticipates this crazy question

& **THAT** sets up the beginning - of the building of our **NEW LIVES**
on the firm **foundation**
of our **Identification**
that brings **BOTH Justification** - & - **Sanctification**

ROM CH 6 is about to permanently connect
the **truth** of our **Justification** - TO
the **truth** of our **Sanctification**

& these **TWO TRUTHS** can **NEVER** be separated
if **ONE TRUTH is TRUE** - then the
OTHER TRUTH must be TRUE

& **the beginning** of this Truth - **is seen** in Paul's answer
to the ridiculous question of **V.1**

Again Rom 6:1 said

1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?

& then Rom 6:2 - ESV

2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

Remember - - If **ONE TRUTH** is **TRUE**,
then the **OTHER TRUTH** must be **TRUE**

& Here is the **FIRST TRUTH**
How can we who died to sin still live in it?

Thru your Identification with Jesus Christ
When **He died** to sin - **You Died** to Sin "**IN HIM**"

This is the **Federal Headship** Theology
that we just **HAMMERED HOME** in our msg last week

Your Faith in Christ - caused you to be so Identified with Him
that when He died to Sin - You died to Sin with Him

& so now - Paul says

How can we who died to sin still live in it?

If, in fact, you have died to sin "IN CHRIST"

Then - HOW can you still be "LIVING IN SIN"

Col 3:3 - ESV

3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

If you have surrendered your life to Jesus Christ

then your old life of sin - HAS DIED - SO . . .

how can you live any longer in it? (as v.2 says)

But maybe your question today is

OK, HOW can I put that into PRACTICE in my life

How can I live day-to-day in Victory Over Sin

How can I live day-to-day Glorifying God

Well - Honestly - The HOW question

is going to take THREE CH'S to answer - *so stay with me*

Today we begin with our identity (our position) in Christ

& then we're going to build all the way up,

to the POWER of Walking in the Spirit - in Rom Ch 8

. . . oh, it's going to be good

The First Step - **After** **Justification by FAITH ALONE** is
we must **KNOW** who we are "**IN CHRIST**"

We **MUST** come to know our "**Identity**" (Position) **IN CHRIST**
THAT is the **first layer** in building our **NEW LIFE** in Christ

I promise you - **if the enemy** can keep you **ignorant**
of who you really are **in Christ**

Then he can keep you **Defeated & Enslaved** to your sin

Understanding our Position in Christ - is actually the **Secret Weapon**
to **Overcoming Sin**
& **Living** in the **New Life** to God

Again - **the Foundation** is our **Salvation by Faith** in Christ ALONE

THEN comes the **FIRST STEP** in our New Life in Christ
which is **understanding our Position** (Identity) **in Christ**

Vs's 3 & 4 - Perfectly **Explain** our Identification with Christ

We'll start with **Rom 6:3**

Rom 6:3 - ESV → →

Rom 6:3 - ESV

3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

If you've been Baptized into Christ Jesus
you've been Baptized into His Death

But this word Baptize - doesn't just mean
being dunked in water - **it means sooo much more**

There are 2 Greek words for our word 'baptize'

'bapto' = to immerse & remove quickly

That would be the word used for what physically happens
when we get baptized in water - it means LIT - TO DIP

However - Water Baptism is a physical picture of a spiritual event

It's a picture of what happens spiritually
when we are united to Christ thru faith

"bapto" (to DIP) is NOT the word used for what happens spiritually

The 2nd word for baptize is . . .

'baptizo' = to be so Identified - as to bring on a permanent change

'baptizo' means - a permanent change has taken place

The picture is that of a Cucumber becoming a Pickle;

The Cucumber is IMMERSED into the Vinegar -
until a Permanent Change is brought on - THAT is BAPTIZO

& that New Pickle - can NEVER become a CUCUMBER again !
It can't go back

The word used here - is BAPTIZO

it means we have been so Identified with Christ
that a Permanent Change has occurred

When you truly surrender your life to
Jesus Christ as your Lord . . .

You become so identified with Jesus - that His Life IN YOU
brings about a permanent change - In your life

You become so identified with Christ
that when Christ died to SIN - - You died with Him

So Positionally – IN CHRIST - you are dead to sin !!!

Gal 3:27 - ESV

27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

You have been SO IDENTIFIED with Christ
that you've PUT ON HIS Identity

THAT is your POSITION in Christ
& it's the Beginning of your New Life in Christ

Now - the pieces really start to come together in V.4

Rom 6:4 - ESV → →

Rom 6:4 - ESV

4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism [baptizo/identification] into death, in order that [so that], just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

When you Surrender your life to Jesus Christ

You become **so identified** with Him . . .

that **whatever happened to Christ** - - has **happened to you**

When **He died, you died** in Him

When **He rose**, you rose in Him - to Walk in **Newness of Life**

& **in fact** - You are **ALREADY seated** with Him **in the heavenlies!**

All because you have been **United to Christ** - BY FAITH

Look at Eph 2:6 - NLT

6 For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.

THAT is your *position* "**IN CHRIST**"

& **because of** this **incredible union** with **Jesus Christ**
you **now have** a totally **new relationship** to **SIN**

& **THAT new relationship** is based
on our being **UNITED** to **Jesus Christ**

& we **see that in Rom 6:5** → →

Rom 6:5 - ESV

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

“united” - in Greek - literally means “grown together”

Like two branches that have become "One Life"

We have been **grafted into** Jesus Christ -

In God's eyes we are **joined to Christ** (United with Him)

& **When** He **overcame** the **power of sin**

We overcame the **power of sin** “in Christ”

& **THAT** is exactly **HOW** the New Life in Christ - **is lived IN US**

Look at Gal 2:20 in the NLT

20 My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

It is **No longer I who live** - But **Christ Lives in me !!**

What does this mean **practically?**

It means: we are **no longer slaves to sin**

because we have **DIED to Sin** - In Christ - &

we are **ALIVE to God** - In Christ

This is our **POSITION** in Christ

DEAD TO SIN - ALIVE TO GOD

Now - **Paul** is going to really **drive home** this truth - in **Vs's 6 & 7**

Rom 6:6-7 - ESV

6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

7 For one who has died has been set free from sin.

Our "**Old Self**" - Our **Sin Nature** - Our **Old Life**
was **crucified** with Christ

in order that our **Body of Sin** might be **brought to nothing**

When it says **brought to nothing** here -

The **most literal** translation is "**rendered inoperative**"

It means - that **Sin's Dominance** (Power) has been **broken**

We are **not slaves** to sin any more

We are freed from the power of sin – "**in Christ**"

Look at how **the NLT** translates **V.7**

Rom 6:7 - NLT

7 For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin.

Let's **make this clear** **once & for all**

If you have been **Identified** with **Jesus Christ**
by putting your **full faith & Trust in Him** . . .

Then - You have **been SET FREE** from the **Power of sin**

Now - That doesn't mean you have become sinless
it means that Sin no longer has POWER over you

Altho - unfortunately - You still have the Free Will to CHOOSE SIN
But the Power of Sin no longer has DOMINANCE over you

Because when you died with Christ (v.7)
you were SET FREE from the Power of Sin

& Remember

There are TWO TRUTHS that are Inseparably connected

One Truth CANNOT be true
without the other Truth ALSO being true

If it's True that we Died with Christ to our sin - then
It is ALSO true - that we will Live with Him - A life to God

That's what our next 3 vs's say

If we've been identified with Christ
in His Victory over Sin & Death

Then we've also been identified with Christ
in the life He lives to God

Let's look at Rom 6:8-10

Rom 6:8-10 - ESV → →

Rom 6:8-10 - ESV

8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

If **one truth** is True - the **other truth** **MUST** be True
If we've died with Christ to sin - then we will **also live with Him**

9 We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

Death no longer has **dominion** over **CHRIST**
& **IN CHRIST** - **death** no longer has **dominion** over **US**

10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.

& If **One TRUTH** is **TRUE**
the **Other TRUTH** **MUST** be **TRUE**

Jesus Christ **Died to Sin** - Once - For **ALL**
& **the Life** He now lives - he **lives to God**

& if we are **Identified** with Him in His **Death to Sin**
We must also be **Identified** with Him in **His life to God**

In other words - we can't say;

I'll take the **DEATH TO SIN** part
but I'll PASS on the **LIVE TO GOD** part

It **doesn't** work **like that** - because it is a **Single identification**
with a **Single Life** - The **Life of Jesus Christ**

& in **True Identification** with his Life - **BOTH** Truths are **TRUE**
we have **Died to Sin** - - & we **LIVE to God**

OK - Now we come to the **practical application** of this **Great Truth**

Rom 6:11 - ESV

11 So you also must consider yourselves [underline] dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The **NKJV** says - **Reckon Yourselfes**

(I think because the **Translators** were from **Texas**)

Reckon Yourselfes - Dead to Sin & Alive to God (**NKJ**)

Consider Yourselfes - Dead to Sin & Alive to God (**ESV**)

(**NIV**) **Count yourselves** - Dead to Sin & Alive to God

The **most literal translation** is "**put to your account**"

the fact that you are **dead to sin** - & **alive to God** in Christ Jesus

We have got to **accept BOTH** of these truths

as **absolute reality** in our lives

IN CHRIST - we are **Both** - **Dead to Sin** - & - Alive to God

This is the beginning of the **supernatural power**

that **God has provided**

for us to **live a Victorious life** over sin

We need to **believe it** – **accept it** – **put it to our account** – PERIOD !

We are **dead to sin** - & **alive to God** in Christ Jesus our Lord

& **then Finally** today - we must **yield** to our **position in Christ**

Rom 6:12 - ESV

12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions.

We now (obviously) have a **CHOICE**;
to **Let Sin reign** in our lives **or NOT**
to **Obey Sin** - or **NOT**

We **have a choice** because the **Dominance** (power) of **Sin**
has been broken by our **Identification** with Jesus Christ

But **the obvious question** is . . . ***How do we do this ?***

Yielding to our **Position in Christ** is a **2 step process**

Step #1) DO NOT - offer your body to sin

Rom 6:13A - ESV

13 Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, . . .

"**Present**" means "To **Offer**"

DO NOT "**Offer**" the members of your body - **to sin**

Are you offering sin the use of your **hands**, your **feet**,
your **mind**, your **mouth** ?

If so – **stop it** - If you are "**In Christ**"
Sin **No longer** has **POWER** over you

you must **NOT** - **OFFER** sin the *use of your body*
to be used as an *instrument of unrighteousness*

That's step one

Step #2) DO offer your entire being - to God

Rom 6:13B - ESV

. . . but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

The word translated "**yourself**" means;
the totality of your entire being

Offer the *Totality of your entire* being to God
as those who have been brought from death to life

AND - *Offer your members* (your body) to God,
as **instruments** of **righteousness**

If you are "**Living in Christ**" today -
The **power of Sin** has been **broken** . . . **SO** -

SO - as Rom 6:12-13 says - from the NLT → →

SO - as Rom 6:12-13 says - from the NLT

12 Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires.

13 Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for [because] you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.

Guys - **NONE** of this is **to EARN** anything with God

This is ALL - a Natural Outcome

of our True Identification with Jesus Christ

Paul ends this section - with **Rom 6:14**

Rom 6:14 - ESV

14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Living under **God's Grace** **DOESN'T** give you **license to sin**
it destroys the **power of sin** in your life

so that - you can **Live a NEW LIFE** - **to God**
Free from the **bondage of sin**

Let me close - with 2Cor 5:17 - out of the NLT

17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Praise God !

Let's Pray