

SALT Church

Romans 6:11-14

“Instruments of God”

October 24, 2025

“The Greatest Book Ever Written”

Good Morning David and Cindy

Recap:

6 Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? 2 Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? 3 Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? 4 For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. 5 Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. 6 We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. 7 For when we died with Christ, we were set free from the power of sin. 8 And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. 9 We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. 10 When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God.

Here is what we learned last week:

- God's grace is not an excuse to keep on sinning.
 - God's grace is the motivation to not sin.
 - We are reminded of God's grace every time someone is baptized.
 - Baptism reminds us that our only hope is in the One who has conquered the grave.
 - In our baptism we symbolically die and are resurrected to a new life in Christ.
- We know that Jesus' resurrection from the grave is the evidence that the Father has accepted His sacrifice for all who place their faith, hope, and trust in Him.
- It is this same power over the grave through the Holy Spirit that we now can have victory over sin.
 - Before we had no hope, no chance of victory over our sin because sin is all that we knew.
 - Praise be to God that He opened our eyes and revealed not only our sin but also Himself to us.
 - Convicted by our sin and the Law that pointed to our failure we found Jesus irresistible as He is the sinners only hope.
- Since that moment God's grace has covered us.
 - Our success and failures all covered by His grace.

But we also learned another very important lesson last week:

- The key to victory over our sin is not to focus on our sin but rather focus on Jesus.

- It is with this thought in mind we move into this week's message.
 - Listen as the Apostle Paul explains.

Romans 6:11-14

¹¹ So you also should **consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.**

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 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.

¹⁴ Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace.

Overview:

- There is a logical conclusion that Paul says, under the power of the Holy Spirit that we need to come to.
 - This conclusion is based upon all that we have already studied in the 1st six chapters of this wonderful letter.
 - The conclusion is simple, in Christ we are dead to sin.
- This conclusion then moves us to action.
 - Mainly our conclusion changes our desires.
 - More on this in a moment.

- Part of this action is an understanding or a more complete view of our bodies.
 - In other words, Paul calls us to an “all in” or complete approach.
 - More on this in a moment.
- By the time we get to verse 14, Paul draws our attention to our new master.
 - A concept that 21st century Americans do not understand.

So, there is the overview

Lets begin:

Romans 6:11-14

¹¹ So you also should **consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.**

(NKJ)

Likewise, you also, **reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

(Logizomai) to account, reckon, to take an inventory, i.e.

Estimate (literally or figuratively) -- conclude, (ac-)count (of), + impute, number, reason, reckon, suppose, think (on).

- It is a very strong word.
 - This verse could be rephrased this way:
 - *“So, you should come to the conclusion that you are dead to the power of sin”.*

- Why is it so hard for us to come to this conclusion?

- Because the struggle is real, is it not?

Oh Father, I want this conclusion to be truth in my life, but I don't **feel** like it is true in my life.

- Why?

- **Because I am not perfect!**

Just to be clear:

- Paul through the power of the Holy Spirit says that every child of God should **conclude** that they are dead to the power of sin.
 - *Process that for just a moment.*
 - Dead people do not do anything at all, good or bad.
 - Therefore, we conclude sin has no effect on them.
 - In fact, we can go a step further and say that the body is evidence of sins final triumphant victory over the living.
 - Meaning the wages of sin (death) have been paid and therefore there is no need for any further action.
 - So, sin keeps sending collection notices on a debt that has already been paid in full.
 - Paul says to through the bill in the trash and do not allow that collection notice trouble you any further.

Paul doesn't stop with death for he reminds us that we have been raised to life in Jesus Christ.

- It's a paradox!
 - We are dead
 - We are alive
 - We are dead to sin
 - We are alive to God in Christ
- On the surface it sounds like we are square circles!

It's going to get better, I promise.

¹¹ So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.

- So, we have “considered, concluded, reckoned, estimated, supposed, & reasoned” that we are dead to the power of sin.
- We have not reasoned, reckoned, considered, or concluded that we are perfect!

We have also concluded that since God the Father raised Jesus from the dead that He accepted Jesus' sacrifice for our sins.

- We have concluded that the Bible is true.
- We have concluded that by faith all of our past, present, and future sins are forgiven.

○ **WAIT A MINUTE PASTOR!**

- I thought we are dead to sin.
 - The scripture says, “Consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin.”

- ***What is this business of future sin?***

Like our baptism, we were symbolically buried and raised to life in Christ.

- Meaning, our bodies are still here in this sinful world.
 - This is why Paul addresses the things we do with our bodies.
 - But what controls our bodies?
 - Desires?
 - Both good and sinful desires?

Perhaps we have been asking the wrong question.

- Perhaps a better question would be, “what does it mean to be alive in Christ?”

Paul knows his reader is going to ponder such things, so he describes what it means to be a live in Christ.

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

Do you remember Romans 1?

- Do you remember the destructive path that the sinful man travels if he refuses to believe truth?
 - 1st you reject the knowledge of God
 - 2nd you create a god of your own liking
 - 3rd you become perverted in your thinking that always leads to perverted actions
 - 4th final step is the depraved mind
 - In this state there is no logical reasoning only destruction

Here in chapter 6 Paul is going to help us with our battle with sin:

- Step 1 is to come to the conclusion that the Bible is true.
 - Meaning as a child of God you have died to the power of sin.
 - Meaning that a child of God is different from a lost person in that we have the power to resist the power of sin.
 - Meaning that God the Father has given us the ability to have victory over sin.
 - This includes new hearts that are protected by breastplates of righteousness, new minds that are protected by the helmet of salvation, feet that are naturally driven to pursue peace, hands that cling tightly to the shield of faith, hands that train regularly with the sword of Gods Word.
 - And all of this is held together by the belt of truth.
 - So, the \$50 question becomes, “How do we use it?”
- Step 2 is to put into motion the power that has been given to us by resisting the power of the sinful desire.
 - (Side note)
 - God gave us desire
 - In its original state our desires were pure and holy but sin came in and attached itself to our desires and created within us something that should have never been.
 - These things that should never be we call them temptation.

Paul gives this exhortation regarding temptation in 1 Corinthians 10:13

1 Corinthians 10:13

¹³No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

The Greek word for temptation is peirasmos

Pronunciation: pi-ras-MOS

Defined as: temptation, trial, trials, testing, a putting to proof (by experiment (of good), experience (of evil), solicitation, discipline or provocation); by implication, adversity – temptation.

Every translation that I looked at translated this word in this verse as temptation and not test.

- Why?
 - Test actually works well in this verse:

¹³No test has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tested beyond what you can bear. But when you are tested, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

That sounds great!

- ***But no one translates it that way, why?***

John MacArthur said it is due to the origin of the desire.

- Meaning, if it comes from our heart it comes from our desire and therefore it would be a temptation.
 - If there is a desire within our heart that needs to be revealed the test will reveal the temptation.
 - Therefore, we can agree with the scripture that says that God does not tempt anyone, but He test everyone.

What does that look like?

Matthew 4:1-11

4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil.² For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry.

- This event is going to reveal what is in Jesus' heart.
- But notice Satan is the one who is trying to discern what is in Jesus' heart, not God. (God already knows)

3 During that time the devil came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread."

4 But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, 'People do not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple,⁶ and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say,

'He will order his angels to protect you.

And they will hold you up with their hands

so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.'"

*⁷ Jesus responded, “**The Scriptures also say, ‘You must not test the Lord your God.’”***

- Same word translated properly as test.
 - In other words, Satan had used scripture to say something that it did not say.
 - Satan was not only questioning Jesus’ heart but also God the Fathers heart.
 - This is why knowing scripture is so important.
 - Satan and his demons know it!
 - Satan does not follow the rule that says, “we can’t make scripture say something that it does not say.”
 - Since the very 1st sin Satan has been twisting the Word of God.
 - Genesis 3 “**Did God really say...**”
 - “**You won’t die!**” *the serpent replied to the woman.* ⁵ “*God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.*”

⁸ Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ “I will give it all to you,” he said, “if you will kneel down and worship me.”

*¹⁰ “Get out of here, Satan,” Jesus told him. “For the Scriptures say, ‘You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.’”
¹¹ Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.*

What have we just learned?

- Temptation comes from desire; it comes from the heart.
- Testing comes from an outside source.

So, when we hear the Lord say that “no temptation has come upon you except that which is common to man” makes sense.

- Man’s heart, man’s desire, man’s temptation.

Okay Pastor, if God knows everything why does He test people?

- Teachers test all of the time for the same reason God does.
 - It reveals to the student what they know and do not know.

The beautiful thing about God is that He has promised a way out of failure.

- Having faith in the truth of God’s Word is the way out, every time.

Now before we move on, I want to clear something up:

- 1 Corinthians 10:13 is often quoted this way, “God will not put more on you than you can bear”
 - Is that what it says?
 - Is that scripture speaking about the hardships of life?
 - No, it is talking about temptation.

If you believe that God will not allow you suffer unto death for the cause of Christ, you do not know your Bible nor do you understand the gospel.

- Does this mean that God doesn't care?
- Does this mean that He won't rescue if it is part of His plan for your life?

What it means is this:

- The only promise He has made about suffering and His children is that they will suffer. (2 Timothy 3:12)
 - Jesus Himself suffered and we are not more special or greater than Him.
 - There is no guarantee of a pain free life.
 - There is the guarantee of Heaven that is free from suffering and pain but in this life sin has brought pain and suffering for everyone and everything.

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.

- **Why did Paul say it that way?**
- I believe that what Paul is saying here is that you can't submit any portion of your body to sin because it is all connected and therefore would plunge your whole being into sin.
 - Jesus said it this way:

Matthew 5:27-30

²⁷ “You have heard the commandment that says, ‘You must not commit adultery.’²⁸ But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ So if your eye—even your good eye—causes you to lust, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your hand—even your stronger hand—causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

- Adultery starts with the eye and the lust (desire) of the heart.
- Touching someone who is not your spouse starts with your hand and the lust of your heart.

Do you see how the sinful use of the instruments of our bodies leads to our destruction?

- This is Paul’s point.

Paul continues:

Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for 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.

- In other words we glorify God with our whole being and this affects everything about who we are and what we do.

¹⁴ Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace.

- I want to expound on this further, but I am sure you feel like you have been drinking from a fire hose.

I promise we will pick this verse next week should the Lord allow but I want to remind you of who you are in Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:17

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, *he is a new creation*; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Ephesians 2:8-10

⁸ God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. ¹⁰ *For we are God's masterpiece*. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.