

TIA – Battery...Physical / Cog / Emot – Thank you...Waiting = Turn in Bibles – **Amazing Grace**

Today is Psalm Sunday = Final week of Jesus' earthly life...Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

- **Where was Paul?** Resident as child & Family – Stephen – Pharisee | **NOT CERTAIN**
We know...certain...met incarnate Christ in Acts 9...radical conversion...wrote Romans
- Nobody knew more to go from living under law to living under grace more than Paul
 - Unreal...Paul imploring people...live righteous lives by grace, when he by law years
- For years Paul's righteousness was determined by strict adherence to the Law...changed
That was most of us before Christ...**made up a list or rules...thought were good = Bam Jesus**
All of Paul's religious standards & practices...meeting Jesus led him to preach & teach this...

Bl - By God's Amazing Grace We Submit to Righteousness

What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, wither of sin, which leads to death, or obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God, that you were once slaves to sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

Through the gift of God's unmerited favor (grace) we joyfully *submit* to His righteous call
Oxymoron – Free from rules...submit to rules | shouldn't it be free from rules...have no rules?
Paul - **What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!**

- **Human condition doesn't allow for that...Purge moves all the time...chaos w/o order**
It isn't 'sin freely because grace covers all' | It's 'live for God's glory because grace covers all'
I'm sure you've heard a variation of 'I'll just run like the devil and repent at the end'
First = Don't know when your end will be | No true Christian (Holy Spirit) thinks that way

So we submit to righteousness because of God's amazing grace in three ways in this text:

1. Committed to Righteousness Means: Revolutionary Dedication

¹⁵What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or obedience, which leads to righteousness?

Metaphor = Slavery | oohhh...hard edge...don't think 1800's (Horrors) – think 1st century Rome

- **80-90% Italian Peninsula was or had been a slave | Entered in freely...pay debt...out**

Economic slavery – Slavery was a necessity before the welfare state

¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey – Submit to a slave master...that's who you follow (Crowd)

You are slaves of the one whom you obey, **EITHER (only two options here)** of sin, which leads to death, or obedience, which leads to righteousness?

Hard part – Paul = You are either a slave who submits to sin OR a slave who submits to God
Communication tactic = Personification...attributing human characteristics to non-human (Boat)

- **Sin is a slave master and if you submit to it what will it give from you? (End v16) Death!**
- **Obedience is your slave master what will it give to you? Righteousness! Right standing!**

Why is this so revolutionary?

- First: It matters more who you submit to than your actions 'I do all these good things'
- Second: Your actions matter...they matter to God – Revolutionary because when He says, 'do this' or 'don't do that'...its not up for debate...I'm the slave! I submit!

Oh no...pastor Jeremy...that sounds awful...now lets up the ante...

2. Committed to Righteousness Means: Joyful Devotion

But thanks be to God, that you were once slaves to sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

Look at who Paul is addressing...'you who were once slaves to sin' = Christians...**Gospel**
Having been set free from 'slaver master sin'...**text...we have become obedient from heart**

- Wholeheartedly committed to the teaching...to the apostles teaching...to the scriptures
 - **How can I be committed 'wholeheartedly' joyfully devoted to a standard of teaching?**
GCO vs. Chenhalls | Went to work for my father...we get to work for a Father who loves us
When the Father says, 'Don't sin' He's saying 'Don't hurt yourself' | Joyful Submission to Right
¹⁸and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

How wonderful the incentive to obedience when you glorify the one who saved your soul?
But this commitment doesn't all come at once...process...

3. Committed to Righteousness Means: Progressive Direction

¹⁹I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

When he says 'I am speaking in human terms, because of your limitations' - **Condescending**

- Slavery as a metaphor is insufficient for how incredible this teaching is...its what I've got
For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

Two things here: One sin compounds sin and Righteousness leads to Sanctification...take in turn

- Sin compounds sin – Take a sin | Lust – Addiction – Spousal Anger | **Splashed w/ mud**
 - Righteousness leads to sanctification – The process of making you more like Jesus
 - You're not always gonna get it right...but here's a way to think about it
 - Direction...where do you want to be? Last chapter of the book? Progress towards it!
 - This takes a conscious decision to take a different path...there are always multiple paths
- Even as Christians we are tempted to go back and play in the mud...

Here is a three word plan that keeps you from the slop:

- a. **Stop** – Wait a minute...where am I going...what am I doing?
- b. **Capture** – 2 Cor. 10:5 'take every thought captive to obey Christ'
- c. **Redirect** – Where should I be going...what should I be doing?
 - The temptation to act on a lustful temptation = Stop – Capture – Redirect
 - The temptation to take your day out on your spouse = Stop – Capture – Redirect
This will help you progress into the direction of sanctification

We don't know where Paul was Palm Sunday...but we do know when on the road to Damascus

- Jesus stopped him – Captured him – Redirected him
- If you've been saved by Jesus: Stopped you – Captured you – Redirected you

It's by God's Amazing Grace We Submit to Righteousness

- Revolutionary Dedication
- Joyful Devotion
- Progressive Direction