

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

Romans 7:1-6: Belonging to Jesus Carl Vereen

Our Belonging To... Our Union With... Jesus Christ... Changes Everything!

- PERMANENCE the change in our relationship with & to GOD.
- PURPOSE the ultimate aim in our life for GOD.

Why does "belonging" change things? Because ...

"I AM THE BRIDE OF CHRIST!"

What about the "LAW"?

The law of the land rules over those living in the land. it has no authority over the dead of the land.

1. YOU ARE DEAD TO THE LAW.

In our case, dead to the body of sin... to the world, the flesh, and the devil. Those describe your former husband.

Were they all erased from existence...? No. They are still there in our environment. But they have no automatic claim or rights over us.

2. YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN BY A NEW GROOM (JESUS CHRIST).

Communion reminds us of all that our GROOM - our Savior Jesus Christ - did in order to "marry" us.

3. JESUS TOOK YOU FROM DEATH AND MADE YOU ALIVE IN HIM SO HE COULD MARRY YOU.

What did you bring with you into this marriage? Not the guilt of sin nor the expected punishment. (See 1 John 4:18.)

..but these: old habits... old patterns of thinking...old fun things...old memories... these things can impact your new "marriage" to JESUS... not by dominating you... but by enticing you to just do things the old way.

However, in your new marriage, JESUS sets you free from them so that now you have opportunity to choose the new ways and leave the old behind. Your PURPOSE has changed, this is it! Now you can choose to honor your new husband.

4. YOU ARE NOW MARRIED TO JESUS AS LONG AS HE LIVES.

(How long does Scripture say that JESUS shall live?)

5. JESUS IS NOW MARRIED TO YOU AS LONG AS YOU LIVE.

(How long does Scripture say those who believe in JESUS shall live?)

6. SINCE NEITHER OF YOU CAN DIE AGAIN, HOW LONG WILL YOU BE MARRIED TO EACH OTHER...?

7. FOREVER!

Drown out the "Yeah, but what if..." by reading and meditating upon Revelation 19:1-9 & Luke 16:11-32 & Romans 8:38 & 39.