

PAX ROMANA

Pastor Ray Swash

Un-Tidy Religion

Romans 6.1-2

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?
Romans 6.1-2 (NIV)

Understanding what is often misunderstood!

Placing 'Brackets' on chapters 6-7, between 5-8 . . .

Understanding Human Justification:

- Stop committing your sins!
- Begin to start doing Good Things.
- Reconcile Yourself to God.
- Be Nice, Be Good, Be Consistent!
- Saved by the Church
- Saved through the Sacraments (Baptism, Communion)

Understanding God's Justification:

- We are not 'Dying' to sin, we are 'Dead' to sin.
- Subjectively we sin, Objectively we are sinless!
- Not bound by guilt, rather free in Christ.

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.
Romans 8.1 (NKJV)

The Dangers of Misunderstanding:

- A) Cheap GRACE.
- Pretending sin does not really matter.
- B) Controlling LEGALISM.
- Exchanging good works for grace.
- C) Theoretical MORALISM.
- Replacing repentance and faith with righteousness.

The Great Divide:

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.

Galatians 1.6-7 (NIV)

The CONTROL of Sin:

VS.

The ACCEPTANCE of Grace:

We, however, are citizens of heaven, and we eagerly wait for our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, to come from heaven.

Philippians 3.20-21 (GNT)

Now you are no longer strangers to God and foreigners to heaven, but you are members of God's very own family, citizens of God's country, and you belong in God's household with every other Christian.

Ephesians 2.19 (TLB)

"You can still be slave experimentally, even when you are no longer a slave legally. You can be a slave in your feelings when actually in respect of your position you have been emancipated completely."

Martyn Lloyd Jones