

PAX ROMANA

Pastor Ray Swash

Just what does a Healthy Christ-Follower Look Like?

Romans 6.19-23

I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness.

Romans 6.19 (NIV)

The Spin: the Positive / the Negative?

When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.

Romans 6.20-22 (NIV)

We are careful not to judge people by what they seem to be, though we once judged Christ in that way. Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new.

2 Corinthians 5.17 (CEV)

. . . to be conformed to the image of his Son . . .

Romans 8.29 (KJV)

Controlled (Slavery) vs. Submission (Freedom of Choice)

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.

Galatians 1.6 (NIV)

Guilt (Living in the Past) vs. Conviction (Moving Forward)

When he (Holy Spirit) comes, he'll expose [convict] the error of the godless world's view of sin, righteousness, and judgment.

John 16.8 (MESSAGE)

Ineffective (Fruitless) vs. Effective (Bearing Fruit)

Yes, the way to identify a tree or a person is by the kind of fruit produced.

Matthew 7.20 (TLB)

Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

Matthew 7.20 (NKJV)

Contentment (Fulfilled) vs. Restlessness (Empty)

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

1 Peter 1.18 (NIV)

“A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. He who has ears, let him hear.”

Jesus—Matthew 13.3-9 (NIV)