

Romans 6 Part 1

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Romans 6:1-14.
- B. We struggle to be good because we have inherited a selfish nature.
- C. God has proposed a way by which that old life is brought to an end—through the Spirit, we have a new basis for life.
- D. The light of Christ is given to us so that we can please God.
- E. It is easier to be good with the life of Christ than it is to be bad because the life of Christ is stronger.
- F. The early church was vibrant because of the experience of the resurrected Jesus among them.

II. The attitude that brings defeat.

- A. The question was, why not continue to be bad if Christ will help a person even more?
- B. The philosophy of “Christ and I” brings an endless cycle of defeat in the Christian’s life.
- C. The Christian philosophy is to focus on Christ’s provision alone.

III. The first step is to recognize that the believer has been baptized into Christ’s death.

- A. Faith rests upon this fact. That fact is that the old life died with Christ.
- B. The old life that has died is not only sinful attitudes, but also all efforts at self-improvement.
 - 1. The day that Christ died was the day that the old self died.
 - 2. When we try to revive the old life, we are trying to revive something that is cursed.
- C. The gospel of trying harder is what brings defeat.

IV. The second step is to consider oneself dead to sin.

- A. One must not presume to find good in what God has found to be evil.
- B. The self-life should not be pampered or excused.
- C. One must seek the new life to accomplish God’s will making the death of Christ fully effective in his life.

V. The third and greatest step is to yield oneself to God as men brought from death to life.

A. Yield means to give over one's body to God's indwelling life counting on Him to energize a person for whatever life brings.

B. Jesus is in us to be all that we need.

C. We need to recognize that we have Jesus instead of crying out for Him in need always.

D. Christ is adequate for every situation.

E. Our Christian life is simply an appropriation of Christ in everything, but the old life must be given up.

Application questions:

1. What does it mean to die with Christ?

2. Why is self-effort put in the same category as sinful attitudes? Explain.

3. How would you explain the Christian life in light of Romans 6? Explain.
