

The Righteousness of God

This Is Freedom

Romans 6:15-23 (ESV)

¹⁵ What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ 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 of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸ and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

What then?

How am I supposed to live if I'm under the "reign of grace"? (Rom 5:20-21)

The principle of **dominion**: "Do you not know ...?"

What I yield to/obey ...

Disobedience leads to ...

Obedience leads to ...

"Conversion is an act of self-surrender; self-surrender leads inevitably to slavery; and slavery demands a total, radical, exclusive obedience."

- John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Romans: God's Good News for the World*, 183.

The principle of **freedom**: "You who were once slaves of sin ..."

_____ liberates me. There is no other way to be free.

When God liberates me, He liberates my _____ first!

This means ...

When my heart is changed, _____ necessarily follows.

We now are being newly formed by the _____.

A hard and necessary **life-check** question: (v. 21)

Do you call that "free"?

The astonishing **paradox**: (v. 22)

_____ is freedom (and vice versa)!

The everlasting **contrast**: (v. 23)

The final "fruit" or "wage" of sin is _____.

(And it is _____.)

God offers something utterly different - _____!

(And it is *not* what you deserve. That's what makes God so good!)