

INTRODUCTION

1. Plagiarism, referencing, & research. My "conversation" w/ Jn Stott.
2. Review - Rm 5:12-21 - *grace reigns*.

1st: Clarification in the Face of Criticism

1. v1-2 *What shall we say then... may it never be!* = formula in wh/ Paul articulates a misrepresentation of his teaching & adamantly refutes it.
 - i. Context of court - judged & defended.
 - ii. 6:1-2 is similar to 3:1-9a gospel results in moral anarchy?
2. 6:1-2 "Let's sin so that grace will increase!"
 - i. 5:20-21 ungodly logic
 - ii. Bonhoffer: cheap grace; MacArthur: easy believism - Rocky Soil. Sin & presume God will forgive: "that's His job" [Heinrich Heine d. 1856]
 - iii. Anti-nomianism - elevate grace to give license to sin - Jd 1:4
 - a. *change the grace of God into a license for immorality* [NIV]; *lasciviousness* [KJV & ASV]; *sensuality* [ESV] - *licentiousness*: dissolute indulgence in sensual pleasure; esp'ly sexual sin [recall Rm 1's trajectory: promiscuity; perversion; depravity of mind]
 - b. We tend to look at "them", but "we" are also liable to excuse our favorite sensual indulgence [Rm 13:13-14].
- iv. Paul warns us against using grace as excuse for moral laxity.

2nd: Our Union with Christ and Commitment to Discipleship

1. First half of Rm 6 - v1-14 union w/ X in His death & res
2. Second half of Rm 6 - v15-23 our commitment to X as disciples
3. Paul appeals to what we already *know* - v3, v9, v11, v16, 7:1 - it is impossible to be a Xn & then live under the reign of sin & death. Grace includes not only justification but also sanctification.
4. Stott pts to 5 parallels in the two halves of Rm 6.

- i. Exults in God's grace - 5:20 -> 6:1-14 & 6:15 -> v15-23.
- ii. Answers same question - 6:1 & 6:15
- iii. Responds w/ same intense repulsion - v2 & v15.
- iv. Our ignorance of gospel & true Xnty - v3 & v16 Reminds of how we began the Xn life.
 - a. Stay rooted in rudimentary truths - *simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ* (2C 11:3)
 - b. Retain childlike trust & dependency on Jesus. Job 26:16 *Behold, these are the fringes of His ways*; Hab 3:4 *hiding of His power*
 - c. Theology -> worship. He is incomprehensible, but can be known thru the revelation of Himself received in salvation [Jn 17:3]
- v. Radical dif tw/ pre- & post-conversion: v2 & v21-22 due to what we were in Adam & are now in Christ [Rn 5:12ff] = contrast of life in this age & life in the age to come.

Applic #1: If We Proclaim the Gospel We Will be Misunderstood & Misjudged

1. Sinners can misjudge role of "works" in salvation apart from works.
2. Professing Xns also need to know the legitimate role of works - avoid legalism & antinomianism.
 - i. preach indicatives [what Jesus is for us: Rm 1-11] & imperatives [what we should do for Jesus: Rm 12:1 Rm 13:8-10 [Rm 3:31].
 - ii. Beware of "just justification" view of salvation: can be antinomian.
3. Expect to be misunderstood, but be ready to give an answer

Applic #2: Be Committed to Learn the Doctrines & to Practice the Disciplines of the Biblical Gospel

1. Paul addresses the mind & moves the hearts truth & love.
2. Live in the fear of God: meditation - ingest Scripture - prayer - self aware in presence of your Father [2C 6:17].

3. Live in union w/ Jesus as His disciple. Believe Him. Love Him & live in His love.