

Romans 6:1-7 – Don't Live like You Are Still in Your Sins

Rienecker, TSK, GreekLexicon, Handfuls, Gaebelein, Gray, JFB, Geneva, Steele, Vincent, Robertson, Poole, Henry, Calvin, Barnes, Clarke Beloved in the Lord: Since you have peace with God, since you have peace during crises, and since you have peace in your heart, you must change your behavior...do the things you should and reflect those you are and who you are!

But it is not only what you should do, but what you shouldn't do...as the justified of God. Hear about this today under 3 headings:

Don't Live in Sin if You Are Justified- Stated

Don't Live in Sin if You Are Justified- Illustrated

Don't Live in Sin if You Are Justified- Re-stated

Our goals are: That as the justified in Christ, you will endeavor to live a life of godliness so Christ's kingdom will come and he will be glorified.

Don't Live in Sin if you are Justified - Stated

1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

1. If God saves men by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, then could the justified person continue to live (live habitually) however he wants?

If the price of men's justification has been paid in full, couldn't the justified live however they want to live?
The answer, of course, is a resounding "no." "Perish the thought!" What a horrible idea!

2. Why is living that way so terrible?

It is an abuse of grace to do so! Man's soul has been changed by grace and what's in his soul should come out! Godliness!
How could the grace of Christ, which rescued man from sin, cause man to indulge in more sin? Absurdity.
The fact is, man's soul lived for sinning before; that's what brought him pleasure, but the justified soul lives for God.

3. To make the justified avoid sin more, Apostle Paul showed how the justified soul is literally joined to Christ – the holy Savior. How could one joined to Christ be living like the Devil and live for the Devil?

Joined, you say? Where is that in the text? The term "baptized" signifies being "joined with," or "united with."
When one is saved, he shows he has been joined to Christ by submitting to Christ marking him in baptism.
Look at proof baptism means "united."

1Corinthians 12:12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free — and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.
One more proof baptism signifies "united with!" Jews were baptized unto Moses (1Corinthians 10:2) when they crossed the Red Sea. Were they immersed...or sprinkled? No. But they were joined with him as they left Egypt to go to Canaan.
So those then who were "baptized into his death" were "joined to him in his death!"

But were Christians literally crucified, buried, and raised with Christ? No. But they were spiritually united with him in these things so they are counted as having died, buried, and resurrected with Jesus.

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

4. Instead of using justification as ground for sinning (perish the thought) Christians live instead to love – which is the opposite of sin.

Christians' new love compels them to live better. 2Corinthians 5:14. They reflect on what Christ's love for them cost him and so they are compelled to live differently.

The glory of God (V4) is seen in the Christian's life of holiness. This is his new lifestyle.

Romans 7:6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

Galatians 5:13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

5. Lessons:

a. Apostle Paul assumes man will use the fact of his justification as a basis of continuing to sin! Doing that was pure foolishness and may even reflect that that person is not saved!

b. Your first close connection with the Lord Jesus was when he died! You had to die and you died in him! So you can confidently say, “I was crucified with Christ. But now, because he lives, I live.” Isn’t that wonderful! **You never have to die again.** You have new life!

c. See the connection between justification and sanctification! The connection is assumed. The one who is saved will be sanctified! **No justified person can live for sin.** You kill sin! You’ve been saved from that filth. Don’t wallow in it. You are making a big mistake if you forget this!

Galatians 4:9 But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, **how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage?**

d. This passage was not teaching about the mode of baptism. That is just as wrong as those who try to justify sprinkling by saying *those who are baptized have put on Christ, or the Holy Spirit baptized people by lighting on their heads.*

Don’t Live in Sin if You Are Justified - Illustrated

5 For if we have been **united together in the likeness of His death**, certainly we also shall be in the likeness **of His resurrection**,

1. Apostle Paul then gave an illustration to show why the justified should not (and could not) live a life of sin.

2. Christians are ingrafted into Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection.

The language here means to be “formed together as one.” The ingrafting is so strong, there can be no separation. (**You can see 3 or more different fruits coming from the same grafted tree!**)

So there is a strong connection between the sinner and the Savior. **There can be no separation from Christ when he was raised as the sinner was inseparably linked with him in his death.** The Justifier is strong, so the justified are strong! He will then reflect his Savior.

Ephesians 2:5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and **raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,**

3. The unity between the justified and the Justifier is so strong, the Scriptures declared the justified has already passed from death to life.

John 5: 24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, **but has passed from death into life.**

6 knowing this, that **our old man** was crucified with Him, **that the body of sin** might be done away with, that we should **no longer be slaves of sin.**

4. With man’s sins paid for by his humiliation in Christ’s death and burial, and being wondrously raised from the dead, and man being grafted into Christ when he did this, how could man go back to things that made him have to die that humiliating death and face the horrible grave?

“Old man” refers the Christian’s previous nature, a sinful one, one that came from Adam, who was a slave to sin! That “old man” is the same as “body of sin.” It refers to the sinful nature man inherited from Adam. 1Corinthians 15:44. That “body of sin” died. **So the old man is gone-the body of sin is gone!** That old man (body) was ruled by sin! But he is now dead!

Who wants to be an old again? Who doesn’t want the fountain of youth, of renewed strength? The one who sins is one who wants to go back to an old raggedy, broken-down body-before the heart surgery.

5. Lessons:

a. This passage had nothing to do with the need for the sacrament of baptism. There are clear passages that teach that. Not this!

b. Remember with whom you are joined. Remember the **closeness of that ingrafting.** Remember **all he has given to you.** Remember **his love. If you do, you will resist the urge to violate his laws and bring shame to him.**

c. Remember your past. Remember and run from it.

Titus 3:3 For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.

Don't Live in Sin if You Are Justified -Re-stated

7 For he who has died has been freed from sin.

1. The one who is united with Jesus has been declared righteous (freed) from sin, so he would not want to continue to live in sin.

Sin is bondage of the will. Justification releases man's will!

And having been grafted into Christ, and drawing from his sap, man will naturally bear good fruit.

2 Corinthians 4:11 For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, **that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.**

The Christian then is free...free from the slavery of sin.

2. Apostle Paul used the term "acquit" to show the judicial declaration – your justification.

The charges against the sinner have been dropped and never return so he lives like the freed!

3. Lessons:

a. Your sanctification is more than dying to sin! It is also living to righteousness.

Colossians 3:1 If then you were raised with Christ, **seek those things which are above,** where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

b. Could you be convicted of being a Christian by your life? Is there enough evidence to prove it?

c. The Christian is dead to sin, but don't think that sin is dead to you! Sin will always try to grab the believer, but you have power over it! You don't have to live that way! One man wrote: Falling into water doesn't drown a man. **It is when he lies in and doesn't get out that causes him to drown.**

Conclusion:

The Christian must not continue to live a sinful life after he is justified just because God is gracious. He must not do this because he knows what his justification caused the Savior.

Beloved in the Lord Jesus:

1. Consider regularly what your salvation cost the Savior. Consider how much sinning robs you. Consider how sinning hinders the non-believer from coming to Christ. Consider how much sinning robs the Savior of the glory that is rightfully his.

2. Confess your sins.

3. Commit to living a godly life and live it.

Finally: If you have been living in sin and not changed from your previous life, you are not saved. Make your life right with God. If you want to be saved, ask God! **That's it! He will credit you with what Christ did in his life and on the cross,** and he will credit Christ with who you are and what you've done. What a deal! What a gift!