

I. Question From Romans 6: Are We to Continue in Sin That Grace Might Increase?

- A. God in His grace has freed us from the guilt of our sin
 - 1. If we give Him opportunities to forgive sin wouldn't that give Him more opportunities to show His grace?
- B. Answer – God has a bigger plan than simply forgiving
 - 1. His goal in salvation is to perfect the people who trust Him
 - 2. That perfection is the final result of what it means to be “In Christ”

II. When Will That Perfection Come to Pass

- A. Not until God's plan is complete
 - 1. There is a final step of redemption
 - 2. Described in 1 Corinthians 15:50-58
 - a. That is the victory we share
 - b. Jesus Christ in His resurrection is the first fruit of that experience
- B. The work of the Spirit in our lives today is the assurance of that experience
- C. What has God done that affects us today?
 - 1. Identification with the death of Christ has broken the power of sin over us
 - 2. Identification with the resurrection has supplied the power to live righteously

D. How does this work out in experience? *Galatians 2:20*

1. God is bringing this to pass
2. We need to recognize the reality of our identification with the Lord
3. In practice we:
 - a. Set aside the old life
 - b. Are renewed in the Spirit of our mind
 - (1) Freed from sin we have become servants to God – *Romans 6:22*
 - (2) Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus – *Philippians 2:5-11*
 - (3) Present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice – *Romans 12:1-2*
 - c. Put on the new man
 - (1) Take action in the new life of Christ