

## Acting on our Union with Christ (Romans 6:12-23)

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Water of Life Bible Class

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### Introduction

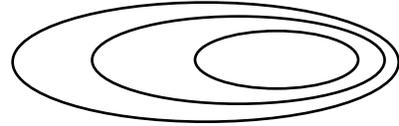
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#### Overview of Romans 1:18–8:39

- A God's displeasure with humanity 1:18–3:20
- B The unrighteous can obtain righteousness 3:21–5:11
- C The righteous-by-faith can live victoriously 5:12–8:39

A



#### The Key to the Justification (3:21–5:11) and Christian-Life (5:12–8:39) Sections

Faith/believe appears 27× in 3:21–5:11, but 1× in 5:12–8:39

Life/Live appears 1× in 3:21–5:11, but 25× in 5:12–8:39

Much of Christendom misdiagnoses the believer's relationship to sin

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#### Exposition

**Believers are not to let sin reign in their mortal bodies to obey it in its lusts (6:12)**

**Believers are not to present their members as instruments of unrighteousness (6:13a)**

**Believers are to present themselves to God as alive from the dead (6:13b)**

**Believers are to present their members to God as instruments of righteousness (6:13c)**

**Believers are not to let sin dominate them, since they are under grace, not law (6:14)**

Is “shall not” a prediction? Or is it a prohibition? Matthew 6:5; 19:18; 22:37; Romans 6:14

Law appears 30× in 6:14–8:7:

Romans 6:14-15; 7:1ab, 2ab, 3-6, 7abc, 8-9, 12, 14, 16, 21-22, 23abc, 25ab; 8:2ab, 3-4, 7

Romans 7–8 show that law-keeping contradicts grace and (paradoxically) results in sin

Believers are not to let sin dominate them, because they are under grace

**Grace does not license believers to sin (6:15)**

**Obedying sin makes one a slave of sin that leads to death [even for believers] (6:16a)**

**A believer who obeys [God] is made into God’s slave unto righteousness (6:16b)**

**Thankfully, the Roman believers became obedient to Pauline teaching (6:17)**

**They went from slaves to sin to slaves of righteousness (6:18)**

**Paul used the illustration of slavery, because the flesh is powerless against sin (6:19a)**

**They once presented themselves as slaves of increasingly wicked uncleanness (6:19b)**

**Now they are to present themselves as slaves of righteousness unto holiness (6:19c)**

**When they were slaves of sin, they were free in regard to righteousness (6:20)**

**The end of slavery to sin is death [even for believers] (6:21)**

**Being freed from [slavery to] sin and becoming slaves of God results in holiness and [living] everlasting life [here and now] (6:22)**

Paul died more than once in Romans 7. What kind of death? What kind of life?

**The wages of sin [even for believers] is death (6:23a)**

**The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (6:23b)**

We received eternal life when we believed

However, Paul’s focus here is that believers can \_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion**