

Freedom in Slavery

Romans 6:15 What then? **shall we sin**, because we are not under the law, but under grace? **God forbid.** 16 Know ye not, that to whom ye **yield yourselves** servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? 17 But God be thanked, that **ye were the servants of sin**, but ye have **obeyed from the heart** that form of doctrine which was delivered you. 18 Being then made **free from sin**, ye became the servants of righteousness. 19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: **for as ye have yielded** your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; **even so now yield** your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. 20 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. 21 What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now **ashamed?** for the end of those things *is* **death.** 22 But now being made free from sin, and **become servants to God**,

ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

23 For the wages of sin **is death**; but the gift of God **is eternal life** through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Everybody is somebody's slave, whose slave are you?
- I want to be as good a saint as I was a sinner
- I want to serve God with the same passion I once served myself and sin
- Picture a slave being freed to serve God
- You will learn that there is real freedom in serving God. When you are His slave you are free, free from death, free from sin, free from fear,
- The lost man thinks that freedom is in being free from God

1. We are not looking for an excuse to sin 15 **What then?**

shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? **God forbid.**

- a. We know what sin brought us! 5:21 **That as sin hath reigned unto death**, even so might grace reign through **righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.**
 - i. Before sin we had life in the wonderful presence of God

- ii. Before sin we were free to enjoy all that God had prepared for us
- iii. Before sin we had dominion over all of His creation
- iv. Sin brought us death
 - 1. That death cut us off from God and all He had prepared for us
 - 2. That death showed us our nakedness and vulnerability
 - 3. That death made us fearful and ashamed
- b. Sin took control of us
 - i. Caused us to have uncontrollable lusts
 - ii. We thought we would be free but found ourselves to be slaves to something that embarrassed and destroyed us
 - iii. One sin just led to another **19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity;** even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

- c. Sin only brought us shame and death **21** What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things *is* death.
- d. Legion is a great example of being freed from sin and not wanting to go back **Mark 5:15** And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid. **18** And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him. **19** Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee. **20** And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all *men* did marvel.

2. We have a choice now **16** Know ye not, that to whom ye **yield yourselves** servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

a. Before sin ruled and dominated us

- b. We are all someone's servant, either life and the Lord Jesus or death, sin, and Satan
- c. Choice came when we obeyed the teachings of Jesus [17](#)
But God be thanked, that **ye were the servants of sin**, but ye have **obeyed from the heart** that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
 - i. We believed it in our heart
 - ii. But we more than believed we obeyed and that from the heart
 - iii. We obeyed a specific form of doctrine
 - 1. That we had failed by sinning against a holy God
 - 2. That all we could ever hope for or deserve was death and hell
 - 3. That God in His great love took on human flesh, dwelt among us, and died on a cross for us
 - 4. That on that cross He took our sin debt and paid it all for us
- d. When we obeyed the truth from our heart we were freed from sin [18](#) Being then made **free from sin**, ye became **the servants of righteousness**.
 - i. Satan, sin, self all lost their grip on me

- ii. I had a choice
- iii. I became a servant of righteousness
- e. Once slaves to sin we can now choose to sin and suffer the consequences or obey and reap the benefits

Deuteronomy 11:26 Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; 27 A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day: 28 And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.

- 3. We are here called to understand how we live out who we are 19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: **for as ye have yielded** your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; **even so now yield** your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

- a. We have learned and know great truths now
 - i. We know that we are free from sin
 - ii. We know that sin no longer has dominion over us

- iii. We know that sin's power has been destroyed
 - iv. We are new creatures in Christ Jesus
 - v. This is the very truth about us but we now have to live it out, position must become practice
- b. Paul explains in human terms how to live out this new life we have
- i. Just like we used to yield ourselves to do unclean things we are to yield ourselves to righteousness
 - ii. Like we once went from iniquity to iniquity we now want to go from righteousness and good works to do another, if we like one we will like another
 - iii. In the same way you used to give yourself to sin now you need to give yourself to do right and serve God
- c. When you were sinning you had no desire to do right **20**
For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.
- i. In the same way now you should be so excited and motivated to serve God that you have no desire to do wrong
 - ii. You loved your other master now love your new master
- d. Think about what your giving of yourself and your all earned you when you were serving sin **21** **What fruit had**

ye then in those things whereof ye are now

ashamed? for the end of those things *is death.*

- i. All your service to sin and self did was embarrass you
- ii. Your old lifestyle only brought forth death
- e. You now have the chance to see your life produce holiness and life **22** But now being made free from sin, and **become servants to God,** ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
 - i. You will produce fruit for Him
 - ii. Your life will leave lasting results
- f. The apostle Paul modeled this truth
 - i. He once persecuted the church but now became the persecuted
 - ii. He thought much of himself, his past, his accomplishments but now counts them to be but garbage **Philippians 3**
 - iii. He is never satisfied with what God has done in His life but constantly seeks to reach out and to grow **Philippians 3:13** Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this one thing I do,* forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those

things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

4. There really are only two choices 23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 - a. Your sin will give you death
 - b. Or the gift of God will give you life, eternal life
 - c. The first Adam brought death and shame, the second Adam brings life and glory
 - d. All the good is in and through Jesus Christ
 - e. Samson
 - f. The prodigal son Luke 15:18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, 19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.
 - g. Where was Samson really free? Where did the prodigal find real freedom? Where will you find real freedom today?