## "Dispose The Flesh – To God!" Romans 6:12-19

## **Introduction:**

- 1. Tonight:
  - We Are Going To Finish:
    - Exploring How:
      - We Might Make More Progress:
        - In Our Victory Over:
          - The Spiritual Enemy:
            - Of Our Flesh!

- 2. If You Remember:
  - The Three Main Enemies We Face:
    - In Our Christian Lives:
      - Are The World, The Flesh, And The Devil!
  - In A Couple Of Weeks:
    - We Will Start Looking At:
      - "Our Ancient Foe" As Martin Luther Described The Devil In His Famous Song:
        - "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God!"
- 3. But For Tonight:
  - We Will Look At:
    - One More Way:
      - To Fight Against The Foe:
        - Of Our Flesh!
    - Even One More Weapon:
      - That We Can & Must Use:
        - To Wage War Against It:
          - And Obtain Victory:
            - Over It!
- 4. But As We've Already Considered:
  - Undergirding Each Weapon:
    - That God Gives Us To Use:
      - Is The Absolute Necessity Of:
        - Depending On The Lord And:
        - Dwelling With The Spirit:
          - On A Day-By-Day Basis!
  - We Will Never:
    - Be Able To Overcome The Power:
      - Of Our Own Fallen Flesh:
        - Apart From The Power Of God:
          - Available Through The Death Of Christ & The Life Of His Spirit!
- 5. Because As We Learned From:
  - Romans 7:24-25 Whenever You Feel:
    - Defeated By Your Flesh:
      - Even As The Apostle Paul Did:
        - And Feel Compelled To Say & Ask With Him:
          - 7:24 "O Wretched Man That I Am! Who Shall Deliver Me From The Body Of This Death?"
      - Remember The Answer:
        - Which Is The Only Solution:
          - To Your Struggle:
            - Against Sin!
        - 7:25 "I Thank God Through Jesus Christ Our Lord!"
  - Progress In Victory Over Your Flesh:
    - Can Only Come:
      - When You Depend On The Lord:
        - And His Victory:
          - Through His Own Life & Death & Resurrection!
- 6. But As We Also Learned From:
  - Galatians 5:16 Even As:

- The Struggle With Your Flesh: - Continues - And It Feels:
  - So Much Stronger:
    - Than Your Own Changed & Cleansed Spirit!
- Remember That Only:
  - As You "Walk In The Spirit!"
    - Will You Be Able To:
      - "Not Fulfill The Lust Of The Flesh!"
- And So Progress In Victory Over Your Flesh:
  - Can Only Come:
    - When You Depend On The Lord And:
      - Dwell With His Spirit:
        - Even As He Dwells In You!

- 7. But Then:
  - As You Pursue:
    - This Relationship & Fellowship:
      - With God Through His Son And:
        - Through His Spirit!
  - God Will Enable You:
    - To Use The Other Weapons:
      - That We've Looked At:
        - In Order To As Paul Puts It In:
          - 1 Corinthians 9:27 To "Keep Under Your Body, And Bring It Into Subjection!"
    - And In These Ways:
      - Experience Even More Victory:
        - Over Your Flesh!
- 8. So To Review One More Time:
  - To Fight Against Our Flesh:
    - We Need To Learn To:
      - Deny Our Flesh:
        - More And More!
    - As We Are Told In:
      - Romans 13:14 "Make Not Provision For The Flesh, To Fulfill The Lusts Thereof!"
  - We Also Need To Learn To:
    - Detest Our Flesh:
      - With A Holy Hate!
        - "Hating Even The Garment Spotted By The Flesh!" (Jude 23)
  - We Also Need To Learn To:
    - Discard Our Flesh!
      - Which Involves:
        - Putting Off:
          - The Old Man! And:
        - Putting On:
          - The New Man!
    - Which Is What We Find:
      - In Ephesians 4!
  - We Also Need To Learn To:
    - Decontaminate Our Flesh:
      - As We Are Told In 2 Corinthians 7:1!
    - And Use The Means:
      - God Has Given Us To:
        - "Cleanse Ourselves From All Filthiness Of The Flesh And Spirit, Perfecting Holiness In The Fear Of God!"
  - And Then As We Learned Last Time:
    - We Also Need To Learn To:
      - Destroy Or Mortify Our Flesh:
        - And The Members Of Our Flesh!
      - Because Of What We Find In Romans 8:13:
        - "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live!"

- 9. Well - Tonight: - We Will Look At Just One More Way: - That We Can Fight Against The Foe Of Our Flesh: - And That Is What We Find In: - Romans 6! - So - Let's Turn Back In Our Bibles There: - Where - In Romans 6:12-19 - We Will Learn That: - In Order To Defeat Our Flesh: - We Need To Dispose Our Flesh: - To God! - In Order To Defeat Your Flesh: - You Need To Dispose Your Flesh: - To God! 10. The Way Romans 6 Puts It: - Is - We Need To "Yield" Our Flesh & Our Bodies: - To God! - Which Simply Means: - To Offer & Present & Put Yourself: - Completely: - At God's Disposal! - Let's Read These Verses Together: - Romans 6:12-19 - Where: - 5 Times - We Find The Idea: - To Yield & Offer: - Yourself & Your Flesh: - To Either God Or To Sin! - "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. / 13 Neither yield ye your members [as] instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members [as] instruments of righteousness unto God. / 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. / 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!" The Weapon We Find In These Verses: 11. - Is An Ongoing Disposal Of Your Flesh: - To God! And - In 6:13 - We First Learn That We Need To: 1. - Dispose Our Flesh To God: - In Principle! - And - The Principle Is Given To Us: - In Two Ways! - The First Way Is: - Stop Yielding Yourself: - And Your Flesh: - To Sin! - Even As Paul Says: - In The First Part Of 6:13 - "Neither Yield Ye Your Members As Instruments Of Unrighteousness
  - But Now As A Christian, You Are "Dead Indeed Unto Sin":
     You Owe No More Allegiance To Sin!
     But That Does Not Mean That:

- Remember - Sin Is Your *Old* Master!

- Sin & Satan Will Not Try To:

Unto Sin!"

- Regain Control Over:

- That Part Of You:
  - That Is Not Yet Entirely Free From Temptation:
    - And That Is, Your Flesh!
- As Paul Puts It Here:
  - "Your Members!"
    - The Members Of Your "Mortal Body" (6:12) That Are Still In This Period & Place Of Transition!
- Of Course, This Would Include:
  - The Physical Members / Parts:
    - Of Your Body:
      - That Still So Often Get You Into Trouble:
        - Like Your Eyes & Your Ears & Your Mouth!
    - **IE:** Like The Children Song "O Be Careful Little Eyes What You See!" / (Ears Hear) / (Mouth Say)
- But This Would Also Include:
  - The Other Natural Members / Parts:
    - Of Your Existence As A Human Being!
      - Like Your Mind, Your Will, And Your Emotions!
        - Which Is Why In Philippians 4:8 Paul Presents A List Of Things That We Should Think Upon! "Think On These Things!"
- You See Sin Isn't Really Picky!
  - Sin Isn't Really Choosy!
    - It Will Try To Use Anything It Can:
      - As An "Instrument" Or A "Tool" To Accomplish Its Goal:
        - Of Spreading More & More "Unrighteousness" In This World:
          - In Opposition To God!
    - And It Will Use:
      - Whatever "Member" Of Your "Mortal Body" It Can:
        - To Try To Get In The Way Of God's Work, Both *In* You & *Through* You!
  - The Word Translated Here As "Instruments":
    - In Other Places Is Translated:
      - "Weapons!"
        - And That Reminds Us Of The Spiritual Battle That Is Taking Place, Right Now, For Souls!
- Now How Can Sin Do This?
  - Well Before You Are Saved:
    - Its Easy!
      - Because, You Are Part Of Sin's Kingdom & Domain!
  - But Once You Become A Christian:
    - By Turning To & Trusting In Jesus:
      - As Your Savior:
        - The Only Way Sin Can Gain A Foothold Back In Your Life:
          - Is If You Let It!
- And So That Is Why Paul Says:
  - As Part Of Your Responsibility & Purpose:
    - 6:13a "Neither Yield Ye Your Members As Instruments Of Unrighteousness Unto Sin!"
      - But At The Same Time Your Purpose Is Now To:
- Start Yielding To God!
  - Even As Paul Tells Us:
    - In The Next Part Of 6:13 "But Yield Yourselves Unto God, As Those That Are Alive From The Dead, And Your Members As Instruments Of Righteousness Unto God!"
      - Remember God Is Your *New* Master:
        - Because You Are "Alive Unto God Through Jesus Christ Our Lord!"
  - And God's Desire:
    - Is To Use You:
      - As *His* "Instrument" & As *His* "Tool" To Accomplish *His* Purpose:
        - Of Spreading More & More Of His "Righteousness" In This World!
    - Isn't This What Jesus Describes For Us:

- In Matthew 5:14-16 - Sermon On The Mount - "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. / Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. / Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven!"

- And God Doesn't Just Want:
  - The "Members" Of Your Body:
    - As In A Little Bit Here & A Little Bit There!
      - But He Wants All Of You!
        - "Yield Yourselves Unto God" Paul Says!
          - Your Whole Self!
  - God Doesn't Just Want:
    - Your *Hands* Of Service:
      - He Wants Your Heart!
- After All This Is The Important Purpose:
  - That God Has For Your New Life:
    - In Christ!
      - But Just What Does It Mean:
        - When We Are Told To "Yield?"
  - Of Course Immediately:
    - A "Yield" Sign Comes To Mind:
      - Like Yielding To Traffic!
        - But There Is More To This Word In This Verse!
  - To Yield Means:
    - To Willingly Put Yourself:
      - At The Disposal Of Another!
        - **IE:** It Was Used To Describe A Group Of Soldiers Standing In Formation, Ready To Carry Out The Wishes Of Their Commander!
    - To Yield Means That:
      - You Are Available!
        - That You Are Ready To Do The Wishes Of Another! This Means That You Have No Other Commitments Or Engagements To Get In The Way!
      - So To Whom Are You Available Today?
        - To Sin Or To God?
    - To Yield Also Means That:
      - You Are Accessible!
        - Like The Soldiers That Are Close Enough To Hear The Words And The Wishes Of Their Commanders!
      - So Who Are You Closer To Today?
        - To Sin Or To God?
    - To Yield Also Means That:
      - You Are Allegiant!
        - That You Are Dedicated To The Person & The Purpose Of Another!
      - So Who Has Your Allegiance Today?
        - Sin Or The Lord?
- Remember This Important Purpose!
  - You Need To:
    - "Yield Yourself Unto God!" And:
      - Dispose Your Flesh To God:
        - In Principle!
- 2. But Then In 6:19 We Learn That We Also Need To:
  - Dispose Our Flesh To God:
    - In Practice!
      - Even As Paul Writes:
        - "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!"
    - So Paul Wants Us To:

- Take What We Know:
  - In Principle And:
    - Put It Into Practice!
- And Keep Yielding Ourselves:
  - To The Lord:
    - As His Servants!
- And So Here Paul Reminds Us Of:
- The Meaning Of Our Service!
  - When He Says In 6:19:
    - "I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh!"
      - He Doesn't Mean That He Is Not Speaking:
        - The Words Of God! Rather:
  - In 6:17-18 Paul Describes The Nature Of Christian Service:
    - Using An Illustration:
      - That We Can Understand Better:
        - Because We Are Still Weak In Our Minds & In Our Flesh!
  - When He Talks About Being:
    - "Servants Of Sin" & "Servants Of Righteousness!"
      - He Is Referring To:
        - The Illustration Of Slavery!
    - Now By Using This Illustration:
      - He Is Not Condoning:
        - Slavery!
      - Neither Is He Making Light Of:
        - The Conditions Of Slavery!
  - Instead He Uses It To Drive His Point Home:
    - That When You Belong To God:
      - You Belong To Him:
        - Totally!
  - And That Involves:
    - Total Commitment:
      - To Him!
    - A Total Obligation:
      - To Him!
    - And A Total Accountability:
      - To Him!
  - Just Like A Slave!
    - And So Like A Slave:
      - Paul Wants To Also Remind You Of:
- The Manner Of Your Service!
  - "For as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity!"
    - When You Belonged To & Served Sin:
      - You Did So Completely!
  - You See Sinners Are Not:
    - Just Held Captive By Sin:
      - As If They Have No Choice!
        - No Sinners Are Captivated By Their Sin:
          - And Render Themselves As Voluntary Slaves!
  - But If You Are Now Saved:
    - Paul Doesn't Want You To Think About:
      - What You Did:
        - When You Sinned!
    - He Wants You To Think About:
      - The Manner Of Your Service!
        - It Was Complete & Total!
        - 7:14 "Sold Under Sin!"
  - Now You Need To Be:
    - "Sold Under God!"
      - Which Leads To:
- The Mission Of Your Service!

- 6:19 "Even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness!"
  - God Wants You!
    - All Of You!
  - To Yield Yourself:
    - And To Pursue After:
      - His "Righteousness Unto Holiness!"
- And He Wants You To Do This:
  - Without Delay Every Day!
    - Decisively!
    - Deliberately!
- Because God's Righteousness & Holiness:
  - For A Christian:
    - Is Still Worthy Of Your Pursuit!
  - Not Merely In:
    - A Passive Way:
      - As If It Will Come On Its Own!
  - But In:
    - An Active Way!
      - To Cultivate The Fruit That Is Grown Of The Spirit!
- Now Even Though This Pursuit Of Righteousness:
  - Is Not The Saving Righteousness:
    - That Only Comes Through Christ:
      - And His Justification By Faith!
  - It Is A Sanctifying Righteousness:
    - That Will Continue To Grow & Lead To More & More Holiness:
      - In Your Character & In Your Conduct!
- Even As We Are Told In:
  - Hebrews 12:14 "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord!"
- Are You Still Pursuing:
  - Righteousness & Holiness:
    - In Your Life As A Christian?
      - This Is What It Means:
        - To Be A Slave Of God:
          - Living Under The Grace Of God!

## **Conclusion:**

- 1. And This Is How:
  - You Can Dispose Your Flesh:
    - To God:
      - And Experience Even More:
        - Progress & Victory:
          - In Your Fight Against The Flesh!
- 2. Whenever The Pressure Builds:
  - To Get You To:
    - Give In To Your Flesh:
      - Instead As You:
        - Depend On The Lord And:
        - Dwell With The Spirit:
          - Yield Yourself! And All Of Yourself! To The Lord!

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