

DEAD OR ALIVE

ROMANS 6:1-10

Thank you, Jesus. He has set us free from the bondage of death that came through Adam.

- Now what? Can we keep on sinning as we please?
- Live like heathens even though we are citizens of heaven?
- Are we able to be antinomian? Forget the law?

***THE TRUTH IS WE ARE SUPPOSED TO BE DYING TO SIN
DAILY SO WE CAN REALLY LIVE!***

THE BEAUTY OF AMAZING GRACE

The Bible says every one of us was born spiritually dead, and have lived lives that proved exactly how dead we were!

- But because of God's amazing grace, we have gone from death to life—because of Jesus.
- **Illustration:** John Newton, in his early teens, ran away from England and joined the crew of a slave ship.

THE BELIEVERS' HOLINESS

- Paul now moves to the subject of the life of righteousness that God demands of and provides for His children, the life of obedience to His Word lived in the power of His Spirit.
- How should we live? We are not dead but alive, and there are no such things as Christian Zombies—kind of **DEAD** but kind of **ALIVE**. You are one or the other.

AS HE FREQUENTLY DOES, PAUL ANTICIPATES THE MAJOR OBJECTIONS OF HIS CRITICS.

CAN THERE BE TRUE HOLINESS ?

The church also has always been in danger of contamination by false believers who wickedly use the freedom of the gospel as a justification for sin.

HERE PAUL DEALS A DEATH BLOW TO ANTINOMIANISM

- Paul avoids the extreme of legalism on the one hand and of libertinism on the other.
- He would neither abandon God's grace to accommodate the legalists nor abandon God's righteousness to accommodate the libertines.

THE ASTOUNDING ANSWER

MEÔ GENOITO is accurately translated “**May it never be,**” and it was the strongest idiom of repudiation in New Testament Greek.

- Modern translation: “**Not on your life.**”
- At this point he does not respond with reasoned argument but with a brief and arresting rhetorical question: “**How shall we who died to sin still live in it?**”
ARE YOU NUTS?!?
- The idea that a Christian can continue to live habitually in sin not only is unbiblical but irrational.

***THE ARTICULATE ARGUMENT* ROM. 6:3-10**

In a series of four logical and sequential principles, he reasons from his basic point made in **VERSE 2**—that the person who has died to sin cannot continue to live in it.

- 1. WE ARE BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST v. 6:3a**
- 2. WE ARE IDENTIFIED IN CHRIST'S DEATH AND RESURRECTION v. 6:3b-5**
- 3. OUR BODY OF SIN HAS BEEN DESTROYED v. 6-7**
- 4. THE ONE DEATH OF CHRIST WAS A DEATH TO SIN—now we are really alive v. 8-10**

HERE'S THE POINT

Because death is the penalty of sin (ROM. 6:23), to break the mastery of sin is to break the mastery of death.

Two extremely important truths:

- First, He died to the *penalty* of sin by taking upon Himself the sins of the whole world.
- Second, Christ died to the *power* of sin, forever breaking its power over those who belong to God through their faith in His Son.

Christ died to sin, once for all (v. 10)—permanently!! IF YOU ARE ALIVE, YOU SHOULD BE ACTING LIKE IT!