

ROMANS STUDY

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GRACE.
THE FOUNDATION OF NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.

Romans 6:12-23

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

Having A Life Worth Living

The Gospel of Grace. The Foundation of New Testament Theology
According to the Gift of Grace Through Faith in Jesus Christ Alone.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Grace, Faith, Works, Paul, Law, The Spiritual vs. The Carnal, Wrath, Glory

Which would you rather pick;

(a) Living a Life Worth Having or (b) Having a Life Worth Living

You might say that these two statements mean exactly the same thing. On the surface I would agree. But not based upon the plan of God and your salvation.

When we say that we are “Living a Life Worth Having”

That statement can mean many things. It could mean that everything’s going well. It could mean that I’ve worked hard and now I have a good Job. The money is fine and I have a wife who loves me and kids who have moved away ... and plus, I don’t have to wear a mask anymore!

(there’s a hint of self-reliance on my achievements and my good fortune)

But when we say that we’re “Having a Life Worth Living” that seems to change things up a bit. There is a humility to that. There is a sense of appreciation or thankfulness. It speaks of living a life that is extraordinary, in a way - living a life that has been gifted or given to us rather than having earned it.

Romans 2:4b

Knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

Romans 6:12-14

Therefore, do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. 13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

Romans 6:15-19

What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! 16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slave whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? 17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. 18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. 19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.

Romans 6:20-23

For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. 21 What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. 22 But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and in the end, everlasting life. 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Here is a passionate, colorful, dynamic, and vivid insight into who and what we are as human beings. Prior to the writing of Romans 6 it was understood by those who study history and literature, that up until this point no such insight had been revealed to man regarding our own human nature to such a degree while at the same acknowledging the Creator God.

Considering Socrates who was the teacher of Plato; who was the teacher of Aristotle; who was the teacher of Alexander The Great - - or any of the noted Oriental philosophers - - none, not a one, compares to what the Holy Spirit reveals here to us in the Scriptures.

Hebrews 4:12-13

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

Proverbs 4:23

Keep (guard) your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.

Having A Life Worth Living

1.) Is having the power of God

vs. 12-14

Is Having The Power Of God

Having A Life Worth Living

1a.) Power over my demons

vs. 12

Verse 12

Therefore, do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

Colossians 3:1-4

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

2 Peter 1:4-9

by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

Is Having The Power Of God

Having A Life Worth Living

1b.) Power over myself

vs. 13a

Verse 13a

13a And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin

Present

grk: paristano, par-is-tan'-o
to stand beside or in the front of, to be readily at hand, to yield, to willingly place yourself under the authority of another in submission to.

(STOP PRESENTING YOUR MEMBERS)

Stop allowing yourself to be exposed to what you know is wrong and sin

Instruments grk: hoplon
a tool or implement of war, a weapon of destruction, a soldier that has been fitted with armor and placed into the fight or the cause of the one who is his superior. (a draftee or a military conscript, one taken by force and ordered to obey)

Growing Up - My Dad’s Garage & Tools were Spotless.
But by the looks of them – they had never been used. But by what they had accomplished in his hands - they were well worn.

The “Presentation” shows you what is possible with what you have available.

Verse 13b

13b but present yourselves (your members) to God as being alive from the dead,

your total body – your soul (ok) your spirit (ok) = your body proves the others

Is Having The Power Of God

Having A Life Worth Living

1c.) Power over my past vs. 13b-14

Verse 13c-14

13c and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.
14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

To not be under the Law means this – that if today a law was passed that all drug addicts are ordered to turn themselves in or else – that Law wouldn’t bother me one bit. That demand has no bearing on my life because I’m not a drug addict. It’s as though “I’m not under the law but under grace” because by God’s mercy, the use of drugs is not my problem.

Psalm 19:7

The Law of the LORD is perfect, converting (calling back or bring back) the soul;

Ephesians 2:11-13

Therefore, remember that (you, once Gentiles in the flesh - who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands) - 12 that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

To Experience True Change - Is What Happens When God Does the Cutting Away

Romans 2:28-29

For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; 29 but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.

To Experience True Change - What Happens When Man Does the Cutting Away

Philippians 3:2-3

Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the mutilation!
3 For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh,

“The Mutilation” were those who taught that the more you cut off, the greater the change, the better you, the happier you become, the holier you are....
....Here’s the thing – they made that up for others and not themselves!

Galatians 5:12

I could wish that those who trouble you - would even cut themselves off!

So, what sacrifice will you give to secure your (what?)

Your Forgiveness? (become clean) you can't – you don't have what it takes.
Your Justification? (become different) you can't – you don't have what it takes.
Your Redemption? (become free) you can't – you don't have what it takes.
Your Sanity? (become calm) you can't – you don't have what it takes.
Your Purpose? (become meaningful) you can't – you don't have what it takes.

Mark 8:36-37

For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? 37 Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

So, which will it be for you? **Living A Life Worth Having**
– the kind of life that on the surface people want cuz it's cool and in the fast lane - or are you now realizing that such a life really doesn't last and **Having A Life Worth Living** sounds way better?

End of Study

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