

Romans 6:4–7

<sup>4</sup> Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

<sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

<sup>7</sup> For he who has died has been freed from sin.

## ***The Old Man was Crucified*** **Romans 6:4-7**

INTRO:

Paul made an amazing statement in **Romans 8:8** which hinges on the reality we will study here. He wrote: ***“So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”*** The ultimate contrast between those in the flesh (the unsaved) and those who have the Spirit of God living in us is unsaved people cannot please God. Those who are saved and have the Spirit of God living in us can please God. Why is this? It is because of the principle we will discuss today. The Old Man is crucified when we enter into salvation.

***I. WHAT HAPPENED TO US (v.4-5)***

***II. WHAT HAPPENED IN US (v. 6-7)***

***I. WHAT HAPPENED TO US (v.4-5)***

**Romans 6:4–5** ***“Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,”***

A. Last time, we learned how by virtue of our union with Jesus Christ we died together with Him, we were buried together with Him and we rose together with Him.

**Ephesians 2:5-6** ***“Even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”***

1. How did this happen? Are we talking about identification with Him here or are we talking about a real death, burial, and resurrection which happened because our union with Him?

2. This all goes back to the mystery of our union with Him. We learned in **chapter 5** that *“in Adam”* we all sinned. Although we did not take the forbidden fruit, Adam's act of transgression was imputed, charged to our account. In a Like manner, all those who are *“in Christ”* have our Lord's righteous act, His dying for our sin, credited to our account.

B. This is not just identification. He does not say that we identify with these things. Paul said that in our union with Christ they actually happened. This is reality and not a neat word picture here. This is the principle the practice will come later.

C. **Verse 5**, Our Lord died to make our salvation certain. He died so that we will live a life that is brand new.

***“For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, yet so, we shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.”***

Since we have been united together in the likeness of His death, we are also united together in the likeness of His resurrection.

## ***II. WHAT HAPPENED IN US (v. 6-7)***

A. Buckle your seat belt, this one is going to jar you!

**Romans 6:5** ***“Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be done away with, in order that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin.”***

B. What happened to us when the Lord saved us? We discovered that we died together with Christ, we were buried together with Christ, and we rose together with Christ. Resurrection power is ours because we are united with the Lord Jesus Christ and that power transforms us so that we will walk in newness of life. What happened in us when the Lord saved us?

1. First, the old man was crucified with Christ. This is what Paul was talking about in

**Galatians 2:20** ***“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”***

What does it mean that the old man died? Does it mean that he is completely out of my life?

2. Admittedly, it sounds this way when we read the second phrase of this verse.

**v.6** ***“in order that the body of sin might be rendered ineffective in order that we should no longer be slaves of sin.”***

Keep in mind the Apostle Paul speaks of the issue of our old man in other places. For example in

**Colossians 3:8-9** *“But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds.”*

Again in

**Ephesians 4:22-24** *“That you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.”*

How do we still have to deal with the old man, if the old man has been crucified?

C. All of this is so we are no longer slaves to sin.

### **Application**

When we sin, we don't sin because we have to sin. We sin because chose to sin. We no longer are compelled to sin. We sin because we want to sin.

Paul did not say sinless perfection is possible this side of glory. We know this because of the discussion in **Romans 7**. The Apostle John wrote in

**1 John 1:8-10** *“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.”*

We are human and so we fight sin. We will learn in the rest of **Romans 6** how to practice the principle in our lives. The helpful truth is we can have increasingly more frequent and longer victories over sin in our lives. Let us then strive, with the Lord's help to seek the goal that Robert Murray M'Cheyne put before us. M'Cheyne prayed, *“Lord, make me as holy as a redeemed sinner can be.”*

*Hymn #437* **Pure and Holy**