

Monarchy, Tyranny, or Liberty?

Rom 6:12-14

Introduction:

- Citizens of a democracy
 1. We have the freedom to v _____, to petition, to influence others, etc.
 2. A m _____ of citizens don't exercise these freedoms.
- Citizens of God's kingdom
 1. Our freedom from sin's power has been p _____ by Jesus (Jn 8:36; Matt 20:28)
 2. Are we exercising that freedom?
 - a. Do you feel helpless in combatting sin in your life?
 - b. Are you inconsistent in dealing with sin?
 - c. How do you overcome your weaknesses?
- Today's lesson is about understanding sin's power and how you can overcome the temptation to fall to sin.

The Monarchy of Sin (12,13)

Do not let sin reign in your mortal body

- In verse 12, sin is pictured as a k _____ as seen by the word "reign."
 1. A king can only rule over the d _____ given him.
 2. Sin works on reigning in our mortal b _____
 - a. Our bodies although mortal (die and decay), will be given l _____ when Jesus returns (Rom 8:11; I Cor 15:53)
 - b. Sin cannot reign in our n _____ nature.
- Our new nature
 1. Was c _____ at the time we trusted Christ (2Cor 5:17; Eph 2:10)
 2. Is p _____ (Eph 4:24) and so sin cannot reign in the new nature only our old nature.
- Our old nature
 1. Is d _____ from God's standpoint
 2. Is a _____ in our experience
- The old and the new nature
 1. Both are connected to our mortal bodies
 2. Both are pictured like c _____ hanging on a clothes rack (Eph 4:22-24).
 3. When we choose to put the new nature on, sin c _____ reign in our bodies!

...do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness...but present the members of your body as instruments of righteousness to God.

- Sin perverts God's purposes of our f _____ senses
 1. T _____ (e.g. sexual immorality)
 2. T _____ (e.g. living to eat, rather than eating to live)
 3. S _____ (e.g. lust)
- The word "instruments" is used everywhere else in the Bible as a w _____ (defensive or offensive - Jn 18:3; Rom 13:12; 2 Cor 6:7; 10:4)
 1. We are constantly in spiritual w _____
 2. Are we fighting for our bodies to be used as weapons of righteousness by God? There is a reason....

The Tyranny of Sin (14a)

for sin shall not be master over you

- Whom can sin tyrannize (absolutely dominate)? – only the un_____
 1. This DOES NOT mean that non-Christians are unable to conquer sinful behaviors.
 - a. Many conquer a_____ (e.g. alcoholism)
 - b. Many have chosen to f_____ others
 2. This DOES mean that no matter what a non-Christian does, they are sinning.
 - a. The Greek word for sin means “to miss the m_____”
 - b. God’s mark or standard is that we g_____ Him IN RELATIONSHIP to Jesus (Col 3:17; Jn 15:5)
 - c. Since a non-Christian is NOT in relationship to Jesus, they are always sinning
- Once a person comes to Christ, sin will not be m_____ over them. Why?

The Liberty from Sin (14b)

for you are not under law but under grace

- Law
 1. The Greek text does NOT have the word “the” before “law”
 - a. If it did, this would be referring only to the Law of M_____
 - b. Since it does not have the word “the” before “law”, it refers to law in general, including the Law of Moses
 2. Believers are not under l_____
- Grace
 1. Definition – a gift we do not d_____
 2. What grace did we receive? – eternal life which is a p_____ relationship with Jesus (Jn 17:3 – the word “know” refers to a personal knowledge as opposed to knowing facts; see also Matt 7:23)
- What is your motivation for doing or not doing something?
 1. Personal benefit? – this is a s_____ motive
 2. What others expect? – this is being a people-p_____
 3. Is it God’s grace (your relationship to Jesus)?
- What if we choose not to act in relationship to Jesus?
 1. Jesus still l_____ us
 2. Jesus will d_____ us to bring us back (Rev 3:19; Heb 12:5,6; I Cor 11:32)
 3. We will learn that God’s way is always best

Conclusion:

Let your love relationship with Jesus determine your actions so that He can use you as a weapon for His purposes.