

# **GREATER BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.**

Dr. Brett Snowden, Pastor

**TOPIC:** Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ

**SCRIPTURE:** Romans 6:1-14

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Salvation is not only forgiveness of sins—it is entrance into a new way of living. Romans 6 teaches that resurrection life is not just a future hope but a present reality.

## **The Context of Romans 6**

Paul has just finished proclaiming the abundance of God’s grace in Romans 5. Some might twist that message: “If grace increases where sin increases, shouldn’t we keep sinning so grace can abound?”

Paul responds with a strong “Absolutely not!” Why? Because salvation is not merely legal change—it is a life change.

## **United With Christ in His Death**

Paul uses baptism imagery to explain the believer’s transformation.

### **A. Baptism as Identification**

- Baptism symbolizes being buried with Christ.
- The old self—the person enslaved to sin—has been crucified with Him.

### **B. Death Breaks Bondage**

Paul says the one who has died is “freed from sin.”

This does not mean believers never struggle. It means sin no longer has ownership or authority over us.

### **C. The Old Self vs. the New Self**

- The “old self” is the person we were before Christ.
- The “new self” is empowered by the Spirit to live differently.

This is not self-improvement; it is spiritual resurrection.

## **Raised to Walk in Newness of Life**

Just as Christ was raised from the dead, believers are raised to a new way of living.

### **A. Resurrection Power Now**

Paul emphasizes that the same power that raised Jesus is at work in us. New life is not achieved by willpower but by union with Christ.

### **B. Present Yourself to God**

Paul gives a practical command: “Do not let sin reign... but present yourselves to God.”

This is daily surrender—choosing to live under the Lordship of Christ.

### **C. Grace Does Not Excuse Sin—Grace Empowers Holiness**

Paul’s message is not “try harder.” It is: Live out what Christ has already done in you.

### **Sin No Longer Has Dominion**

Paul concludes with a powerful declaration: “You are not under law but under grace.”

- Grace does not weaken holiness; it produces it.
- Grace breaks chains.
- Grace empowers obedience.
- Grace makes new life possible.

## **BREAKOUT ROOM DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

### **1. Understanding New Life**

- What does Paul mean when he says we are “dead to sin but alive to God”?
- How does baptism help us understand our identity in Christ?

### **2. The Old Self vs. the New Self**

- What are some ways the “old self” tries to show up in daily life?
- How can we intentionally “present ourselves to God” each day?

### **3. Grace and Transformation**

- Why do you think some believers misunderstand grace as permission rather than power?
- How has God’s grace helped you overcome a struggle or grow spiritually?

### **4. Living Under Christ’s Lordship**

- Paul says sin shall not have dominion over us. What does that look like in practical terms?
- What spiritual habits help you walk in “newness of life”?

## **5. Community and Accountability**

- How can our church better support one another in living out our new identity in Christ?
- What does a grace-filled, holiness-seeking community look like?