

— Romans 6.1-5 —
Romans Series 35
Union with Christ

Romans 6.1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 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. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.

* The problem Paul is dealing with here is, how can you teach and seek to instill in Christians ... without creating the danger that they will become ...

* How did this reasoning factor into Augustine's debate with Pelagius, and in the Arminian/Calvinism debate?

* Paul's answer is to this line of thinking is basically to say, "This is a false ... Assurance and sanctification are ..., not ... What you are failing to recognize is that the mechanism of our salvation—the means by which salvation is communicated from Christ to us—leads us not only to ..., but also to ... For the means by which salvation is communicated from Christ to us is ..."

* Paul is basically saying that the reason people incorrectly think assurance and sanctification are at opposite poles and are in tension with one another is that they are incorrect in their understanding of how ... They are incorrect because they conceive of this means of communicating salvation as being something other than ...

* union with Christ.

That's what I want to focus on today. Because if we don't get that down, we will inevitably fail to understand Paul's whole argument in Romans 6, and we will fail to understand the real basis for sanctification in the Christian life.

* What are Christians putting in the place of the biblical means of Christ communicating salvation to us?

* Whenever the Bible analogizes or pictures the whole of how salvation is communicated to us, it is always in terms of a ... between Christ and us. What are some biblical examples?

– 1) ... (Eph 5.31-32).

– 2) ... (Col 1.18; Eph 5.30).

– 3) ... (Rom 8.15; Gal 4.6).

– 4) ... (John 15.5).

– 5) ... (Rom 11.16-17).

* What about verses using accounting analogies, and could be used to justify a bank wire model of salvation?

– 2Cor 5.21 [God] made him who knew no sin to be sin for

us, that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

that we tend to read right over what the Bible ..., and to read into the story ...

– Romans 4.5 *But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, 6 just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:*

* The Bible teaches that God gave Adam ... up front and free, and signified it by telling Adam to ... (Gen 2.7-17).

* Don't think in terms of us and Jesus having ..., and Jesus ... righteousness to us. That sends us down ... in a number of respects.

* What is Adam called Luke 3.38?

– 1) It tends to make us think of righteousness like ... which can be ... Jesus' righteousness cannot be separated from ...

* What did God call Adam to earn?

– 2) It creates an idea of ... between us and Jesus, when the Bible says we are ... There is no ... between us, and there are no separate ...

* Name some ways Jesus sought to cleanse the disciples of this kind of wrong thinking.

– 1)

– 2)

– 3) It tends to create real problems with regard to ..., because it tends to make all such activity seem like we are trying to ..., which leads us into an ... in the Christian life.

3)

– 4) It tarnishes our whole conception of ... and what he ... It makes us think God created us as ... instead of ..., which suggests God in his essence is more ..., and the ... of salvation are just nice things he did one day, not ...

* The fact is, even after God has saved us through Christ, we have such a strong bent to believe that God created us as ...