

[¹] *What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace might increase? [²] May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? [³] Or do you not know that all of us who have been immersed¹ into Christ Jesus have been immersed¹ into His death? [⁴] Therefore we have been buried with Him through immersion² into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. [⁵] For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection, [⁶] knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin; [⁷] for the one having died is freed from sin.*

[Romans 6:1-7]

As we begin Today's Thought, I ask you to read again Romans 6:1-7. Listen carefully to what the Holy Spirit moved Paul to write concerning what is said about our being united with Christ Jesus' death and our living in sin.

Now that you have done this let me ask you if you took note of the fact that *"the one having died is freed from sin"* [Romans 6:7]! Of course, this is referring to our dying a metaphorical death, not a literal death. We are to have figuratively been *"immersed¹ (with Christ) into His death"* [Romans 6:3]. Let me emphasize again *"the one having died is freed from sin"* [Romans 6:7]! Let us explore this concept a little closer.

IF you *"have been buried with Him (Christ) through immersion² into death"* [Romans 6:4]; Romans 6:11 tells us the desired outcome of this *immersion²*. You are now to *"consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus"*. And ***IF*** you are *"dead to sin"*, Romans 6:12 teaches you that you are to no longer *"let sin reign in your mortal body that you should obey its lusts"*! Rather, Romans 6:13 instructs you to,

[¹³] *... not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.*

Again *"the one having died is"* to live as having been *"freed from sin"* [Romans 6:7]! Therefore, *"sin shall not be master over you, for you are... under grace"* [Romans 6:14]!

You are now posed with a question in Roman 6:16 you need to seriously consider. That question is,
[¹⁶] *Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness?*

Then Romans 6:17-18 goes on to say, that ***IF*** you were a slave *"of sin"* and then,

[¹⁷] *... you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed,*
[¹⁸] *and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness,*

You should then give thanks to God [6:17]!

¹ Most Bible versions transliterate this Greek verb (Strong's Greek dictionary verb number 907) as baptized. However, the translated meaning of this Greek verb is to dip, to plunge, to immerse, or to submerge.

² Most Bible versions transliterate this Greek noun (Strong's Greek dictionary noun number 908) as baptism. However, the translated meaning of this Greek noun is to dipped, plunged, immersed, or submersed.

Galatians 5:24 instructs us that **IF** you “belong to Christ Jesus,” you are to “have crucified” your “flesh with its passions and desires”. The reason we are to do this is because, as Galatians 5:25 says, “**IF** we live by the Spirit” we are to “also walk by the Spirit”.

Listen closely to the lesson given to us in Colossians 3:2-3 where you are taught that you are to,
^[2] Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. ^[3] For YOU (are to)
HAVE DIED and YOUR LIFE IS (to be) HIDDEN WITH CHRIST IN GOD.

In 2 Timothy 2:11 the Spirit moves Paul to encourage you with these words,
^[11] It is a trustworthy statement: For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him.

As we begin to close Today's Thought consider the purpose for your being called to be a disciple of Jesus given in 1 Peter 2:21-24 where we read,

^[21] For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, ^[22] Who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; ^[23] and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; ^[24] and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that WE MIGHT DIE TO SIN and LIVE TO RIGHTEOUSNESS; for by His wounds you were healed.

Have you entrusted yourself to the righteous judge? If not, will you today?

Will you please pray with me?

Father God, I praise You today that You have buried me together with Christ Jesus through my immersion into His death. I am thankful that just as Christ was raised from the dead through Your glory I and those praying this prayer with me might walk in newness of life. I praise You that through being immersed with Christ in that watery grave, our old self was crucified with Christ. Now I pray and ask that You give us a full conviction of the truth that our body of sin might be done away with, and that we should no longer be slaves to sin! Give us full conviction that those of us who have died with Christ have been freed from sin. Strengthen us to no longer let sin reign in our mortal bodies. Strengthen us to no longer obey its lusts. I ask this through the power and authority of His name! Amen!

Please meditate and pray on these things!

Louise and I pray this will help to both enlighten and encourage you to **know in a greater way** the **One** promising in His Word to never leave you or forsake you [Hebrews 13:5; Deuteronomy 31:6, 8]!

BECAUSE I STRIVE TO DAILY DIE TO SIN THROUGH CHRIST JESUS! – tom!