

THE MOST IMPORTANT BOOK IN THE WORLD!

ROMANS

Rom. 6 and Agape Love

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1. Question 1: Shall believers continue in sin so that grace may abound?

Answer 1: Absolutely not; it is impossible

2. Why? Because the believer died to Sin—was separated from the sphere of Sin.

a. Paul is not talking about committing “sins” but about being enslaved to Sin.

b. Death is not annihilation or destruction but separation—physical, spiritual death, Rom. 4:18)

3. How did the believer die to sin?

The Means of the Christian Life:

God placed us into Christ, which made His death, burial and resurrection our death, burial and resurrection, bringing us into the Highest of Heights together with Christ in life (Rom. 6:3-5).

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4. How is this new Live lived?

The Mode of the Christian Life:

God also identified us with Christ's Cross where Christ, who was in the Highest of Heights, shared His riches by going to the Lowest of Lows out of the pattern of Agape Love.

--This is what destroys the "body of sin."

- a. The body is not destroyed,
- b. Nor is sin is destroyed.
- c. Rather it is Sin's hold over the believer's bodily existence that is destroyed by Christ's Cross based on Agape Love.

5. Now believers have an option that they didn't have as unbelievers., serving God rather than Sin.

- a. As unbelievers they were compelled to offer compulsory service to Sin.
- b. As believers who have been removed from Sin's compulsory service, they can now voluntarily serve God, being compelled by the love of Christ at the Cross (2 Cor. 5:14; Gal. 2:20).

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6. **Only the Love of God displayed at the Cross of Christ can accomplish this because:**
 - a. **Rom. 1:18-32: Fallen humanity's fundamental problem is that in their rebellion against God and His Word in unbelief, embracing the likeness of corruptible creation, they became enslaved to their own selfish lusts under the power by Sin that leads to Death, destroying everything in its path.**
 - b. **The only solution to this problem is for God to provide sinners with a way to return to Himself in faith, by embracing the likeness of Christ death on the Cross as proclaimed in Paul's Gospel, which would free them from their own selfish lust, sin and death and build up everything in their path.**

7. **This is the only basis for true worship of and service to God:**
 - a. **The only service accepted by God, that is completely apart from the contamination of Sin and Death, is Agape Love: Selfless service that flows out of the Love of God at the Cross of Christ for the sole purpose of building up others in God's Truth for today.**
 - b. **This is the only way Rom. 3:23 can be resolved.**

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8. **Christ's pattern of AGAPE LOVE looks like this:**
 - a. **Although: Christ possessed status of being God.**
 - b. **Not: He didn't consider it something to be grasped for Himself**
 - c. **But: Something to be used in a self-giving way for the advantage of others.**
 1. **He made Himself of no reputation, took form of servant by coming in the likeness of humanity.**
 2. **He was found in human form, humbled Himself unto death, even the death of the Cross.**
9. **Any place you see these things, Paul is talking about Love.**
--Rom. 1:7-16; 15:1-3—Paul's service of Love to the Romans.

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10.1 Corinthians centers on Christ Crucified and His Love. (1 Cor. 16:14, 20-23)

11. Putting together the meaning of love:

- a. 1 Cor. 13:5: Love seeks not its own.**
- b. 1 Cor. 10:24, 33: Love seeks not its own but the other's.**
- c. 1 Cor. 8:1: Love seeks not its own but the others for the purpose of building up and edifying believers and the assembly in God's truth for today.**
- d. 1 Cor. 11:1: Follow Paul in all of this because he is the one following Christ in this.**

12. 1 Cor. 13 is Paul's antidote to the Corinthians sinful walks.

- a. Love is patient, they were rushing ahead (11:20-22, 33).**
- b. Love is kind, not envious, not boastful, not arrogant: They were jealous and quarrelling (3:3); boastful (4:7, 1:29-31; 3:21; 5:6); puffed up and arrogant (4:6; 4:18-19; 5:1-2; 8:1).**
- c. Love is not rude: They were improper and shameful (7:36, 5:1-2; 8:1).**
- d. Love does not seek its own things: They seek their own things (10:24, 33).**
- e. Love is not irritable: They were experiencing divisions and rivalries (1 Cor. 1).**
- f. Love is not resentful, does not rejoice in wrongdoing: They were using errant lawsuits and grievances, defrauding one another (6:1; 7-9)**
- g. Love bears, believes, hopes and endures all things: They were in unbelief about the resurrection. (1 Cor. 15)**