

# What Is The Christian Walk? (Pt.1)

**GOOD EVENING!**

Rom. 6-8 reveals that believers do not need to wait until they get to Heaven to participate in eternal life. They can participate in it right now, on this sin-cursed world under adverse conditions.

While in Rom 6, Paul tells us that we no longer need to participate in the bad things of sin and should participate in the good things of God ... he goes on in Rom. 7 (using himself as an example ("I")), to tell us that WE CAN'T DO IT! Thus, the despair. (Rom. 7:18-25)

Appreciating this is the crux of walking in newness of Life (Rom. 6:4) and serving in newness of Spirit (Rom. 7:6). Just as we were saved from sin and spiritual death in our standing before God by grace through faith (ie., justification unto eternal life) (Rom. 3:23-24), so too we are saved from sin and death in our experience by grace through faith (ie., sanctification, which brings Christ's Life into our walk and service.)(Gal. 2:20-21).

And this happens because God placed us under a Grace System NOT a Law System. And in a Grace System God does all the doing; we do all the believing (Rom. 6:14)

And it works because in the Pauline Grace System God gives us access to all God's blessings freely, up front, fully equipping and empowering us to walk according to God's plans and purposes (Rom. 5:1-2; Eph. 1:3).

This is the very opposite of a Law System, which gives no blessings up front. The Law calls on sinful flesh to first produce its own righteousness then receive blessings. Israel's 1500 years history proved once and for all that when fallen humanity tries to relate to God through sinful flesh under the governance of the Law, it only brings curses, not blessings.

When we reach the end of Rom. 6, we are at risk of making the same mistake that the Israelites made at Sinai. They saw that God called them His people and saw His amazing salvation and witnessed His miraculous provisions and wanted and willed were ready to DO ALL THAT HE SAID ... But they couldn't do it and fell under the curses of the Law. They should have fallen on His grace of His Jehovah name that He displayed on the way to Sinai. If they were going to be the people God created them to be, HE WOULD HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING FOR THEM!

And this is true for the Body of Christ as well. If we are going to be the people God created us to be, HE WILL HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING! In Rom. 5-6 God calls us His people, and we see the greatness of our salvation in Christ and learn about everything that belongs to us to Christ, and receive His super-abounding Love and Grace and realize that He freed us from sin and death and joined us to righteousness and life: We are ready to go, wanting, willing to DO all that He says: But WE CAN'T DO IT, and Paul demonstrates this in Rom. 7.

Israel's relationship to God through their sinful flesh was governed by the Law. It shined a light on their sinful hearts, magnifying, multiplying and energizing sin, resulting in condemnation and death. It was a fruitless relationship. (Rom. 7:5)

BUT NOW, those who had been under the Law needed to appreciate that when they were related to God through Christ, they not only died to sin, they also died to the Law. They are no longer relating to God through their sinful flesh governed by the Law and results in sin and death. They are relating to God through Christ, which is governed by Grace and results in righteousness and life, producing fruit unto God and holiness (Rom. 6:22; 7:4). This is "walking in newness of life." This is "serving in newness of Spirit." (Rom. 6:4, 7:6).

Anything that steers us away from accessing the riches of God's Grace, steers us away from the walk and service that is pleasing to God. One way this can be done is by returning to sin. Another this can be done is by returning to the Law (Rom. 5:1-2). When we regulate our relationship to God through Christ with a law system, it shuts down our walk and service to God. The Christian walk isn't making lists and laws and trying to look holier or more spiritual than others! The Christian walk is enjoying our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ!!

Let's watch what happens when a believer stops carrying out his ministry while enjoying Christ and being resourced and empowered by Agape Love under Grace, and instead "does" it through his own resources and power to check things off a list or to feel more spiritual or to accomplish more things for God or to add things to his credit column under law to impress God or others. (Rom. 7:7-13)

**Rom. 8: Only God can do the good of Christian Walk and Service!**