

I. **Rom 3:21-5** ----- **The main topic is Justification** (which we have covered at great length)

II. **Rom 6-8** ----- **The main topic is Sanctification** (*progressive victory over sin*)

A. The main emphasis of each chapter: (6-8)

1. Romans 6 emphasizes the **position of victory**. This is who we are and what we have in Christ (our position or standing in Christ)
 - a. Key verse: Rom 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
2. Romans 7 emphasizes **the person lacking victory**
 - a. Key verse: Rom 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.
3. Romans 8 emphasizes **the performance of victory** (or the practice of victory)
 - a. Key passage: Rom 8:2-4 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: 4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

To understand your “position” in Christ vs “performance” just imagine that you are an assembly line worker in a plant. The owner dies and, in His will, he states that you are now the president and chief executive officer (CEO) of the company. **Your position is president and CEO.** It is a fact; no one can rightly deny that or take it away from you. It was conveyed to you by the owner. That is what Romans chapter 6 is all about... It like the will that states that you are now CEO and defines the privileges that have been conveyed to you as a result of being granted that position in the company. And in our scenario, this position was not granted to you because you earned it or had worked your way up to CEO, it was simply given to you.

Now just because you are granted the position of CEO does not necessarily mean that you have the experience, ability and know-how to perform your job well. So **Rom 7 chronicles your struggles and often failure** in attempting to successfully carry out your responsibilities. Just because you fail does not mean you don't have the *position* anymore; it simply means that you are not *performing* well in that position. There are certainly GOOD CEOs and there are LOUSY CEOs, just as there are spiritual, victorious Christians as well as carnal defeated Christians. Just because you may not perform well (ie walk in victory) as a Christian, does not mean you have lost your position. You just are not living up to your position in Christ.

Rom 8 is you successfully performing your job as CEO.

In life that would probably mean: **job training** (incl on-going training) lots of trial & error (**experience**) **shadowing** a mentor. All of which would empower you to properly carry out your position in the company (ie perform well). In Christ that means: training in the word of God, experience, and being mentored (disciple) as well. But of course it would also mean that you are developing a relationship of faith and dependence upon Christ and “performing” by the power of the Holy Spirit.

III. **The position of victory**. Rom 6

What We Have and Who We Are in Jesus – Romans 5-8 Study
Lesson IV: *Our Position in Christ – Part 1*

- A. Paul will now tell us of the position or standing that we have in Christ. *Look for phrases like “we are”, “we have”, “we have been”, “being now”, etc. stating what we have & who we are in Christ [i.e. when properly related to Christ by faith]. These express our position or standing in Christ.*
1. Not stating what we CAN have or be; declaring what we DO have & who we ARE “in Christ”
 2. **It is vital to know these truths in our heart & to embrace them by faith so we can walk in them.**
 - a. John 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.
 - b. 1 Cor 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.
 - c. Heb 11:33 Who through faith ...wrought righteousness...

B. We’ve got to be positive about these truths: **If you didn’t know, or didn’t believe** what the will stated (that you are CEO), you might continue to work the assembly line.

1. Bro Millikan’s message: **“Things are not getting worse; they are getting better”**. (A mind-set)
 - a. The first thing that changed (woman w/ issue of blood) **Her vocabulary**
 - 1). **Mk 5:28**
 - 2). Just because Word/faiht teachers take this too far; doesn’t mean there is no truth here.

IV. Rom 6:1-2 (*referring to Rom 5:20, “where sin did abound, grace did much more abound”, Paul then asks...*) What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

A. Paul here tells us, among other things that **“we are dead to sin”**.

B. He then expounds upon this further explaining **why and how** we ARE dead to sin.

1. Rom 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? (*Are you ignorant of the fact that all of us that have become one with Jesus Christ have also become one with Him in his death?*) **(Note we WERE baptized into His death)**
 - a. Baptized = **immersed**; here it refers to our **union and identification with Christ**, (i.e. being immersed into or becoming one with Christ), not to water baptism. *We know this because:*
 - 1). Water baptism is not mentioned here. (*It speaks of being baptized into Christ*).
 - (a) 1 Cor 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body (*the body of Christ*), whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.
 - i. 1 Cor 12:27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.
 - ii. Eph 5:30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.
 - 2). *We are never taught that water baptism makes us one with Christ; or that water baptism has some saving power. Scripture teaches that, we are justified by faith alone, apart from works (Rom 4:5); (water baptism is a work). It is simply a public act of faith and obedience and is symbolic of our union with (baptism into) Christ which occurs upon conversion and is lived out in our relationship with Christ by faith.*

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2. Rom 6:4 Therefore *(since we are one with Him in death)* we are buried with him *(Gr. = to deposit into a grave or tomb together)* by baptism into death: that like *(in order that)* as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so *(indeed in this manner)* we also should *(may)* walk in newness of life.
 - a. So since we are one with Christ: when Christ died, we died (to sin); when He was buried, our old man (self) was buried; when He rose, we rose with Him, *(This is our position in Christ as a believer)* in order that we might walk in newness of life.
3. Rom 6:5 For if *(since)* we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be *(lit. will be)* also in the likeness of his resurrection: *(because if we have become united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection [i.e. we will be able to walk in the newness of life])*.
4. Rom 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin *the flesh* might *(may)* be destroyed *(rendered idle or inactive)*, that henceforth we should not serve sin. *(in order that we would no longer be enslaved by sin)*
 - a. *“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him”* It is very important that we know that our old sin nature is crucified with Christ.
5. Rom 6:7 For *(because)* he that is dead is freed from sin.
 - a. **Since we died with Christ we are freed from sin:**
 - b.

V. **What we have & Are in Christ according to this passage:**

- A. **We are dead to sin** Rom 6:2
- B. **We are one with Christ** Rom 6:3 ...were baptized into Jesus Christ
 1. Dead with Him Rom 6:3 were baptized into his death? Vs 8
 2. Buried with Him Rom 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism
 3. Risen with Him
Rom 6:5 that like *(in order that)* as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so *(indeed in this manner)* we also should *(may)* walk in newness of life.
- C. **We are crucified with Him** Rom 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man *(the flesh; self)* is crucified with him.
- D. **We are freed from sin** Rom 6:7 For *(because)* he that is dead is freed from sin

VI. Rom 6:8 Now if *(since)* we be *(are)* dead with Christ, we believe that we shall *(will)* also live with *(to live together with)* him:

- A. Since we are dead to sin and self through our union with Christ, we believe that we will live a victorious life together with Christ. *(Because He lives it through us. See Gal 2:20).*
 1. Rom 6:9-11 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth

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unto God. **11 Likewise (*In like manner*) reckon (*account, consider*) ye also yourselves to be dead indeed (*in fact*) unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

- a. We know that since Christ was raised from the dead, He will not die again; death can no longer rule over Him. 10 For the death He died, He died for sin once, and the life He lives, He lives unto God.
 - 1). Christ death and resurrection is completed.
 - (a) This speaks of the finished work of Christ on the cross.
 - b. In like manner consider yourselves to be truly dead to sin and alive to God, through Jesus Christ.
 - 1). Since we are granted this position we must consider it to be so by faith.
 - c. Just as Christ died and is alive, since we are one with Him, we are to consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God (i.e. victorious; living in the newness of life).
- B. The point here is that we are in union with Christ, therefore we have died and risen with Him; it's a done deal, victorious life is ours to live by faith!