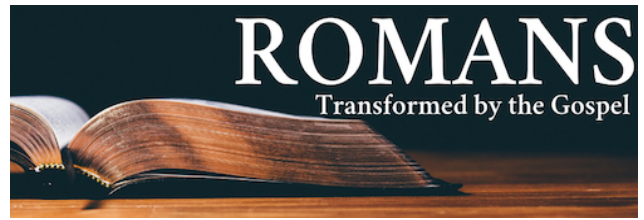


## Choose Your Master!

July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Romans 6:15-23  
Pastor Jon Pickens



### What is Paul's point?

1. A Few Observations:
  - a. Having been justified, we serve a **new** master.
  - b. Our old master leads us to **impurity**, lawlessness, and eventually **death**.
  - c. Our new master leads us to **sanctification** and eternal **life**.
2. Paul's Point: God Grace sets us free from sin so that we can live for God, so continuing to sin actually has a **negative** impact on the work of grace in our lives.

### If we have been set free from sin, why do I struggle with it so much?

1. Answer: Sin is actively at work to **reclaim** its power over you.
  - a. Sin **appeals** to your rebel heart.
  - b. Sin leverages **shame** to keep you under its thumb.
  - c. If shame is not properly dealt with, it will lead to a **hard** heart.
  - d. A hard heart leads to slavery under the guise of **freedom**.

### How do I experience freedom from sin in my daily walk?

1. Understand sin's **strategy**.
2. Refuse to **buy-in** to its empty promises.
3. Surround yourselves with **voices** and **habits** that will lead you in the path of righteousness.
  - a. Voices: Who or what do you give space in your life to influence you?
  - b. 6 Habits: What practices have you formed in your life that help you seek after God?
4. Choose to walk by the **Spirit** and surrender to the work of God's grace in your life.

**SAY YES TO THE WORK OF GOD'S GRACE IN YOUR LIFE!**

## Discussions Questions

1. How does sinful behavior negatively impact the work of God's grace in your life?
2. Sin seeks to reclaim power over you. Pastor Jon talked about how it leverages shame in us so that we hide from God, justify our sin, or redefine what sin really is. How have you experienced this in your life in the past and/or in the present?
3. What false promises of sin have you bought into in the past? What are some of the destructive consequences of sin in your life?
4. Pastor Jon talked about surrounding yourself with voices and habits that will lead you in the path of righteousness. Are there any voices that you need to change in your life? What habits do you need to implement in your life that will contribute to your growth in Christ?
5. In what specific area of your life do you need to say yes to the work of God's grace in your life?

## Next Steps: July Reading Plan (Week 1)

**Day One:** 1 Tim. 1  
**Day Two:** 1 Tim. 2  
**Day Three:** 1 Tim. 3  
**Day Four:** 1 Tim. 4  
**Day Five:** 1 Tim. 5

### Journaling Tip:

As you think about a particular truth throughout that day from your reading, often an application or an implication of the truth will surface. Capture it in your journal at night to help solidify it in your mind and heart.

## Next Week's Sermon: Romans 7:1-6

### July Scripture Memory:

46 "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you? 47 Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: 48 he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. 49 But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great."

**Luke 6:46-49 (ESV)**