

Romans 6:14

Grace-Powered Confidence and Commitment Powered

Monday, May 8, 2023 ▫ Read Romans 6:14

Questions from the Scripture text: What is the subject of the first clause in v14? What will it not do? Over whom? Why not—what aren't believers under? What are they under instead?

Why will Christians succeed in overthrowing sin? Romans 6:14 looks forward to the sermon in the midweek meeting. In this verse of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **Christians succeed in overthrowing sin because they do it not by the law but by grace.**

Throughout this chapter, we've been learning that Christians have been joined to Jesus in a resurrection life that is almighty in its power, eternal in its period, and unto God for righteousness in its purpose. We have come into all of this by the baptism of the Spirit, which put us in union with the Son. God has done it, which is to say that this has been done by grace.

So shall we continue in sin that grace may increase (v1)? No, v14 says that we will most certainly overthrow sin, precisely by God's grace. Grace does not excuse our sin. It is a power under which we overthrow it.

When we treated righteousness as if it was by works, we marched under the banner of the law. But now, we know that righteousness is in Christ, by the Spirit, unto God. We march under the banner of grace, because we march under the banner of God. We have passed from the death of the law-realm, in which we sought to live by our own power, into the life of the grace-realm, by which we live by the Spirit, in the Son, unto God.

O, what confidence we should have against sin! If we are in Christ, sin has lost its right over us. It will not be our master. God, Who has delivered us from sin's guilt has most certainly delivered us from its power. He has not only declared us to be free from sin by what Christ has done for us by grace; He has actually empowered us to resist sin by what Christ has done *in us* by grace.

O, what commitment we should have against sin! If we are under grace, then we are sin's sworn enemies. The law was always opposed to sin, but it could not make us to be opposed to sin too. By our sinful flesh, the law was weakened from being able to do that (cf. 8:3). But now God has brought us out from under the law and put us under the banner and power of grace instead. And grace has done it. Grace has made us enemies of sin.

Against what sins, specifically, do you most need to commit yourself as an enemy? Against what sins, specifically, do you most need to battle with confidence? What, specifically, about your current condition can give you both this commitment and this confidence?

Sample prayer: Lord, we thank You for bringing us out of ourselves and into Christ. Forgive us for when we serve sin, as if it were still our master. Forgive us for when we attempt to resist sin in our own strength, as if we were our own power. Grant, by Your Spirit, that we would resist sin in Your strength, in Jesus Christ, in Whose Name we ask it, AMEN!

Suggested songs: ARP32AB "What Blessedness" or TPH466 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

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(The following is a machine-generated transcription. PLEASE BE AWARE of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Romans six. This week. We have just verse 14. For sin. Shall not have dominion over you. For you are not under law. But under grace, So far the reading of god's inspired and inherent word. Giving us a new way. New titles. For thinking about the transition. The definitive change that is made in someone.

When we are baptized into christ, which of course we've been Reminded many times is not something that happens. When the water is poured out upon you, but when the spirit is poured out upon you, And when the spirit, Makes you alive and gives you faith so that you are joined to jesus christ.

You are baptized by the spirit. By use of the spirit mode of the spirit. Into jesus christ and you go from being dead. In your trespasses and sins. To being alive together with him. And we go from being the slaves of sin. Who offer every faculty every aspect of who we are.

What we have? As slaves of sand as weapons forcing. And so the one who is dead in his trespasses,

Is weaponizing. Everything that he is and everything that he has for sin and you go from being that To being alive unto God. Now you're a slave of god. But being a slave to god is very different than being a slave descent. Being a slave to sin is death.

Being a slave of god is being alive. And so you go from being a slave to sin to being alive. Unto God. And now we have a new way of describing that transition which is you go from being under law. To being under grace. And that helps us understand what it is to be under law.

To be under law is to suffer the sentence of the law. He who sins shall die? To be under law, is to only have Our obedience to the law. As a hope. Which is, of course, no hope at all. The dead man. Cannot hope that he will have a second wind.

In order to finish the marathon. He's dead.

Being under grace. Means, first of all. That the sentence that was against us has been canceled. But second of all, That we have a power and a hope. That are not from ourselves but our from god. If there was good in us, the law could have given us hope but there was not good enough.

And so in a couple of chapters time, the apostle is going to say That god has done what the law could not do. Because the law was weakened by our sin. Not that the law is weak. But that, as far as a hope for righteousness, the law is weak.

If it offers obedience to the one who cannot obey, And so this is the transition. That we no longer live under the banner of our effort. But we now make effort we live. Under the banner of god's grace.

And so, He says. For sin, shall not have. Dominion over you. Because, This transition has taken place. Because we have passed. From the law realm, in which we were dead. And we have been brought into the grace realm, in which we are alive. In which we live by the spirit.

In which we live in the union with the sun. And so now the power of the triune god is at work in the life of the christian. Because the christian lives in union with jesus christ, And the christian lives. Therefore, By the spirit. Of jesus christ, the one to whom we are united.

Has given us. His holy spirit. To lead us and direct us and help us. In living in union, with him as the spirit constantly. Pours out god's love in our hearts, as he constantly directs, our attention to the lord jesus. And not just what the lord jesus has done for us.

In his earthly ministry and his completed work here. But what the lord jesus is doing for us in glory. Now in his intersection, But what the lord jesus will do for us in. At the return and at the judgment.

So, we have Uh, come out of one kingdom. The The sin kingdom. Where we were under the law, but as sinners Send rain this king and When we turn to the law for help, the law, says, what is right? That we don't deserve help. That we must do it and we can't.

And we've come into the grace kingdom.

Where we live and we march. By the life of the spirit. As service unto our king, our god. Which we are able to do by grace. What this does not mean. Is that we don't care about the law? Or that we don't love the law or that we don't obey the law.

There are people who read this verse that way, but it couldn't be more opposite. The truth about this verse Because when we come from being under the law, to being under grace and is then, for the first time that we truly care about the law, that we truly love the law, and we begin for the first time in any way.

To truly keep the law. That doesn't mean those things, but it does mean. That we should have great confidence against sin. And great commitment against sin. For the first place, we should have great confidence sin, shall not have dominion over you. There's no longer your king. How do you know?

Because you're not under law. Your under grace. And the only way to come to be under grace is to have a new king. The king of righteousness, jesus. I have a new king and you live in a new realm. You do not have to obey the old king. He seems very strong at times.

You spent a lot of time in his reign. Until you received your new nature, your old nature. Did nothing but want to serve self. Which is a demonic deception because serving self is just serving sin. And so he he seems like a great and mighty king. And you may be.

Tempted. To think you may fall into thinking. That sin is a, is a powerful master over you, but it's simply not true. You have a new citizenship, you have a new nature. It has no right over you and you should be confident against it. And you can assert i am not under law.

No longer walk in my own strength. You're right, i'm weak. You're right. I'm sinful. I do commit sense. But you are not my king. And i shall escape your grasp completely. By the time this has all said and done. You hear that, in verse 14? Sin shall not have dominion over you.

For you are not under law, but under grace And so it's a confidence that has been transferred from yourself. To the lord jesus christ. You say i am confident in christ that since i am under grace. Sin cannot be my master. But not just confidence then but commitment. Because there are those Who as we're going to hear in a couple verses time.

If you have your bible open, you can look at verse 16. Who do present themselves as slaves to sin to obey it?

And so there are those who even though They have been transferred. Into the kingdom of grace transferred into the kingdom of god. Into the kingdom of righteousness.

In confusion. And weakness against the remaining sinfulness. Do at times. Give up the fighting. Then they slide back into the way of living. In which there are just serving themselves and they're just serving sin.

And, They are acting every bit the same. As if they belong to the former king. The usurping king. Who doesn't have a right to the throne, but they give him that throne anyway. And his grievous. And it is treacherous. And it is deadly. And it makes them. Such a Weak and sickly grain of wheat or stalk of wheat.

To use an image from our lord's parable. That they no longer can be distinguished. From the tears, from the crabgrass. That belong to the enemy.

And so when we read you are not under law. But under grace is not just a call to confidence against sin. It's a call to commitment against it. To refuse. To refuse to live for myself. To refuse to indulge. My fleshly desires. To refuse to be bitter. To refuse to be vengeful in my spirit.

Refuse to be anxious. Over, what may come. To refuse to.

Use my mouth. As a weapon against others. To refuse to indulge lust with my eyes. Or with my mind. That we should be committed against it. It is no longer our master. And if we, Value. Our transfer into the kingdom of god, the kingdom of righteousness. If we value having been transferred from being under the banner, Of the law to being under the banner of grace.

If we value having been transferred from operating under the power of obedience to the law, To operating under the power of christ. With us. Then we should be committed. To expressing our new citizenship, to expressing our new identity. To expressing our new power source. To enjoying and declaring and demonstrating.

Within our gods really has saved us. He really has brought us through this definitive transition. So, those are the, the Three big things. The first Thinking of the transition is going from being Under the Banner and power of the law to being under. And from going, Under the banner.

Going from being under the banner of the law and powered by the law. To being under the banner. Of grace and being powered by grace, that's the first thing. And the second is that this should give us great confidence against sin. And the third is that. This should motivate a great commitment.

Against him, it shall not. Dominion. Over you. Then, let's pray.

Her father in heaven, we've Thank you. That though you didn't help any of the angels you fell? Yet, you singled out abraham from among the nations. Because in his seed, you were Saving sinners. From among every family of the earth.

When the here we are. As my family now, And we know you as master and know. You don't just know about your law, but By your spirit, you've made us to love your law. Even such that we're grieved by how little we love you Law. And how even less we do that, which we love from your law.

But you O God are the one who have brought us out. From under law in which we only ever hoped in ourselves. To being under grace where our hope is entirely in you. And since you are, Our king. And you are our help. We pray that you'd give us confidence against sin.

That as we fight in battle, that is Difficult. And that feels at times losing.

You'd make us to remember from your word that the change of banner and the change of power.

Has guaranteed to us. That there has been a change of king.

And help us O Lord to love. To assert and demonstrate and enjoy. That you have brought us under grace.

By our commitment against sin. And grant that we would do so more and more

That this Usurper, that would style itself as king.

Would be embarrassed and humiliated. And crushed. By your power. Operating in our lives. For, we ask it in jesus name.