Shall We Continue In Sin?

Romans 6 - Message

United with Christ, we have been set free from sin and are free to serve God in righteousness.

Legalism's definition of Antinomianism:

Someone who believes "that faith alone, not obedience to the moral law, is necessary for salvation"

(Webster's New World Dictionary)

"Antinomianism"



Short version: Antinomianism is lawlessness

"Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness" (1 Jn 3:4)

Fuller definition: Antinomianism teaches that obeying the law of Christ is not necessary for believers

Zane Hodges disputed the Reformed view that "Paul treated good works as an inevitable outcome of true regeneration". He protested, "Paul simply did not hold such a view of works"

The Gospel Under Siege, p. 94

Zane Hodges' View

There is a difference in being a Christian and being a disciple

Christian = everyone who is saved

Disciple = Christian who commits to obeying Christ

Being a disciple is optional

Romans 6-8

"A life characterized by sanctification"

C.E.B. Cranfield, Ephesians, vol. 1, p. 295



Romans 6

- I. Being united with Christ, we have died to sin's power (1-14)
 - A. Paul objects to the antinomian's abuse of grace (1-2)
 - B. Paul argues that our union with Christ has broken sin's power (3-10)
 - C. Paul provides instructions for living out our union with Christ (12-14)

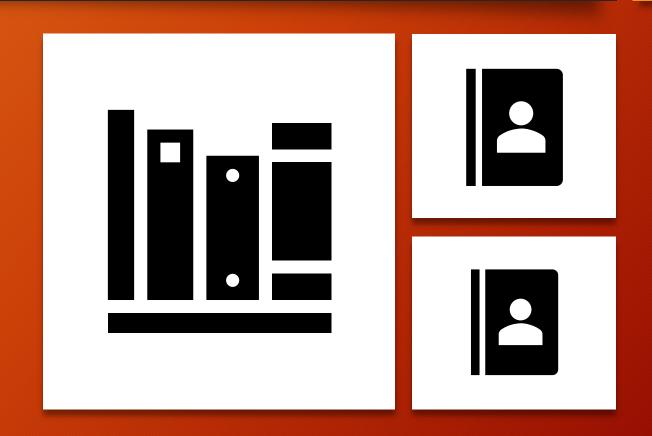
Four reasons why it is absurd to think we could continue living in sin

- 1. We are in union with Christ (3-5)
- 2. Our slavery to sin is over (6-7)
- 3. Jesus' death and resurrection broke sin's power enabling us to live (8-10)
- 4. Realize that you've died to sin and are alive to God (11)

<u>View Your Life In Two Volumes</u>

 Volume One - Your old life up to your burial with Christ

 Volume Two - Your new life beginning with your resurrection with Christ



John Stott, Men Made New

View Your Life In Two Volumes





"We have to keep saying to ourselves, 'Volume one has closed. You are now living in volume two. It is inconceivable that you should reopen volume one. It is not impossible, but it is inconceivable"

Instructions for living out our union with Christ

- 1. Do not let sin reign in your bodies (12)
- 2. Stop putting your abilities into the service of sin (13a)
- 3. Put your abilities into the service of righteousness (13b)
- 4. Understand that sin isn't your master because you are under grace (14)

We Believe In...

Sovereign grace

Irresistible grace

Grace that will have its effect in our lives



Romans 6

- II. Being freed from sin's power, we must serve righteousness (15-23)
 - A. Paul objects to the antinomian's misapplication of grace (15)
 - B. Paul instructs us on living out our new slavery to God (16-22)

Instructions for living out our new slavery to God

- 1. Remember the nature of slavery (16)
- 2. Remember that your slavery has changed (17-18)
- 3. Put your abilities into service as slaves of righteousness (19)
- 4. Take seriously the drastic difference between two outcomes (20-23)