

Pure Living
Romans 6:1-4

- I. Sin is real.
 - a. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23
 - b. So He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life. Genesis 3:24
 - c. For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord Romans 6:23
- II. What does it mean to be dead to sin
 - a. What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Romans 6:1-2
 - b. Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4
 - c. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:11
 - d. DO NOT ALLOW SIN TO RULE YOU: Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. Romans 6:13
- III. Does grace give one the freedom to sin?
 - a. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Romans 6:15
 - b. Who are you yielding to?

- Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. Romans 6:16-18

IV. Pure Living requires live in the Spirit.

- a. There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Romans 8:1
- b. **Condemnation** is the imposing of a sentence usually the death sentence for a crime.
- c. **Conviction** is the pronouncement that one is guilty of a crime.
- d. **In Christ Jesus.** Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. John 15:4
- e. Walk after the Spirit
 - This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. Galatians 5:16
 - ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³ Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

V. Pure Living Means we have been Rescued!

- a. Rescued from spiritual death
 - ⁵ For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to be carnally

minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. ⁷ Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.⁸ So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His. Romans 8:5-9

b. We are assured of our position in the Family.

- ¹⁵ For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. ¹⁶ The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: ¹⁷ And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. ¹⁸ For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. Romans 8:15-18

VI. Pure Living means we are victorious!

a. We are justified.

- ³³ Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Romans 8:33

b. We are Sanctified

- ³⁴ Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Romans 8:34

c. We are Stabilized

- ³⁸ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, ³⁹ Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of

God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8:38-39

Final thoughts

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Most Biblical scholars accept that Paul's letter to the Romans was written while he was in the Greek city of Corinth. Early Corinth has often been described as a city where you could find everything you wanted, both good and bad. Corinth had a strong Christian community as well as debauchery of every kind, much like the well-known city of Rome. Paul knew of the sin and degradation of Rome and writes a letter to help the Roman Christians grow in their faith in spite of their sexually immoral surroundings.

In Chapter one of this letter, it is clear that the preacher is concerned about and condemns the growing debauchery of the city.

Romans 1:28-32

²⁸ And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. ³² Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die,

they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

The Christians of Ancient Corinth and Rome struggled to live a life pleasing to God. Those around these regions seem to invent new ways to sin each day. Paul in his letter to the Romans enumerated those sins but spent more time extolling the love that God has for mankind.

Romans 10:2-4, 8-10: Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. ²For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. ³For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. ⁴For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes...⁸But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. Romans 10:9-10 (ESV)

Today the church's voice is often muffled and sometimes completely silent on morality issues. When the church does speak out on moral issues it is often very harsh and without true love. It is easy to forget where and what God delivered us from.

I Corinthians 6:9-11

⁹Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. (ESV)

It is in this "Pauline mindset" that we have attempted to address immorality issues within the Word of God in a very practical way. We pray that this will help alleviate the excuse that "we did not know" while simultaneously expressing the true love of God. John 3:16-17 states: ¹⁶"For God so loved the world,^[1] that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.