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Published by:
Christ, Our Life Ministries, Inc.
Po Box 43268
Louisville, Ky. 40253

_____ Programs 14 and 15 _____

The Body Death, The Second Provision of the Cross (For Daily Living)

Through Christ's broken BODY we have exchanged lives with Christ. He took our place in His death, now He takes our place in daily living.

- **Rom.5:9-10** Delivered daily from sin's dominion by his resurrected life(Amp)
- **Rom.6:6** The old man is crucified with Christ
- **Gal.2:20** I am crucified with Christ, I no longer live, but Christ lives in me
- **IICor.5:21** Christ was made sin, on our behalf that we might be made His righteousness
- **Rom.6:2** We are dead to SIN
- **Rom.7:4** We are dead to the LAW
- **Col.2:11** We are circumcised with Christ, putting off the body of sins
- **Rom.6:3** We are baptized into His death
- **2Peter8:1** We are partakers of the divine nature
- **Col.1:22** In the body of His flesh through death to present you holy, and unblameable
- **Heb.10:10** We are sanctified through the offering of the body of Christ
- **Heb.10:14** By one offering He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified

**Through the CRUCIFIED BODY of Christ we are:
Delivered from the root of sin which is the
*Satanic /sin nature.***

- **Luke.3:9** Cut to the root
- **2Cor.5:21** Christ was made sin
- **Rom.6:2** Dead to Sin (Satan the producer)
- **Rom.6:3** Baptized into His death
- **Rom.6:6** The old man is crucified that the body of sin might be destroyed
- **Rom.6:7** He that is dead is freed from sin
- **Rom.7:4** Dead to the law by the body of Christ
- **Col.2:11** We are circumcised with Christ, putting off the body of sins
- **Gal.2:20** I live, yet not I, but Christ; Gives us a new identity, or a new self (Christ as (me))
- **Eph.2:6** Raised us up together, and made us to sit together in heavenly places
- **Col.1:22** In the body of His flesh to present **you** holy, unblameable and unreprouable
- **2Peter8:1** We are partakers of the divine nature
- **Heb.9:14** We are cleansed from a sin consciousness (given a new mind)

**(PART ONE)
"Dead to Sin"**

(Rom.6:2)

Christ identified Himself with man's sin by paying the ultimate price of His shed blood, and by offering His broken body. He bore our sins so that man, will identify himself with Christ knowing that when Christ died he also died indeed to **sin** in order that we might live unto God. Rom.6 gives us the full doctrinal facts concerning our total deliverance. It is somewhat like our "last will and testament". "Knowing this that our old man is crucified with Him (Christ)" (Rom6:6). In view of this great fact, God beckons us to reckon it, by faith, to be indeed true. He identifies with us on the Cross, ("He was made sin") and now we are to identify with Him as a participator with Him in His crucifixion ("I am crucified with Christ"). This is the meaning of what Jesus said in John 14:20, "I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you". We were in Him at the Cross, and now He imparts His very life in us.

The Bible in Colossians 1:20-22 declares that there are two aspects of the Cross. It says, "Having made peace through the **blood** of His Cross, by Him, reconcile all things unto Himself." Then again in verse 22, "In the **body** of His flesh through death to present **YOU** holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in His sight." Also, the book of Romans unfolds to us its revelation of "the blood" and "the body". The first five chapters present to us salvation by faith alone, and the forgiveness of our sins by the blood of Christ (Rom.3:25;5:9). While Romans 6-8 presents the provision of Christ's bodily death and resurrection (Rom.7:4) for the indwelling sufficiency for our daily holiness.

The blood of Christ satisfied God's justice, while the body death of Christ satisfies **us** by the power of His indwelling life daily saving us from sin's dominion. "Much more (certainly), now that we are reconciled, that we shall be saved (daily delivered from sin's dominion) through His (resurrection) life" (Rom.5:10-Amp).

Let us consider the communion table for a moment. There are two different sacraments, bread and wine. The wine representing Christ's blood, and the, the bread representing Christ's broken body. We are taught truth concerning the blood (wine), but hardly ever do you hear teaching on the bodily death and resurrection (bread) of Christ. Most of the time the "blood" and "body" are combined together as one teaching, when in fact there are two meanings.

It could be that most don't even realize that there is daily deliverance from sin's dominion available in the "bodily death" of Jesus. Most teach that in this life, we will always be bound to an "old nature," and it will not be until we die that we will experience deliverance. Most try to improve themselves by trying hard to keep themselves from, "seeing evil", "hearing evil", and "speaking no evil" with very little success, if any. II Cor.1:10 says, "Who **had delivered** us from so great a death, and **doth deliver**; in whom we trust that He **will yet deliver us.**" The Cross, has, does, and will deliver us. Three tenses of deliverance. I think that the Gospel has more deliverance available in it for right now than we ever thought.

The importance of the bodily death of Christ is that it delivered us from the **producer of sin (Rom.6) as well as the power of sin (Rom.7)**. We were all born with a self-centered satanic nature. Through Christ's bodily death, He delivered us from our fallen indwelling sin nature. The blood of Christ covers the **product** of sins, while the body death replaces the **producer** of sin.

Sin and Sins, their differences

The Bible declares you are "dead to sin" (Rom.6:2). When and how did we die to sin? First of all, we need to understand what the word "SIN" means from the Bible's perspective. There are two grammatical uses for "sin": one is "sins" (a verb), and the other is "sin" (a noun). "Sins" are the action of the producer Mr. Sin. And the word "**sin**" in II Cor.5:21 and many such verses throughout Romans 5-8 is rendered a noun.

The Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New Testament by Ethelbert W. Bullinger says:

"sin is not merely however, the quality of an action, but a principle manifesting itself in the activity of the subject, "The man of sin," (IIThes2:3) being the personal embodiment of sin."

Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament says: Usage Notes: is, lit., "a missing of the mark," but this etymological meaning is largely lost sight of in the New Testament. It is the most comprehensive term for moral obliquity. It is used of "sin"

(a) a principle or source of action, or an inward element producing acts, e.g., [Rom.3:9](#); [Rom.5:12,13,20](#); [Rom.6:1,2](#); [Rom.7:7](#) (abstract or concrete); [Rom.7:8](#) (twice), [9,11,13](#), "sin, that it might be shown to be sin," i.e., "sin became death to me, that it might be exposed in its heinous character:" in the clause, "sin might become exceeding sinful," i.e., through the holiness of the Law, the true nature of sin was designed to be manifested to the conscience.

(b) a governing principle or power, e.g., [Rom.6:6](#); "(the body) of sin," here "sin" is spoken of as an organized power, acting through the members of the body, though the seat of "sin" is in the will (the body is the organic instrument); in the next clause, and in other passages, **as follows, this governing principle is personified**, e.g., [Rom.5:21](#); [Rom.6:12, 14,17](#); [Rom.7:11,14,17,20,23,25](#); [Rom.8:2](#); [1Cor.15:56](#); [Heb.3:13](#); [Heb.11:25](#); [Heb.12:4](#); [Jas.1:15](#)

Sin is personified in these chapters of Romans 5, 6 & 7 verses as stated in the footnotes in **The New Testament (Recovery Version)**: "Up to Chapter 5:11 sins (plural) have been dealt with. From chapter 5:12 sin (singular) is dealt with. It seems that sin is mentioned in Romans 5-8 in a personified way. It is a person who can reign (5:21) who can lord over people (6:14), who can deceive and kill people (7:11), who can dwell in people and do things against their will (7:17;20). It is quite alive (7:9) and exceedingly active: so it must be the evil nature of Satan, the evil one, dwelling, acting, and working in fallen mankind."

In Genesis 4:6-7, the Lord addresses Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door; it desires to have you, but you must master it." Here again sin is personified. The NIV study Bible says: "The Hebrew word for crouching is the same as an ancient Babylonian word referring to an evil demon crouching at the door of a building to threaten the people inside. Sin may thus be pictured here as just such a demon, waiting to pounce on Cain, it desires to have him." The Genesis 4:7 use of the word "Sin crouching at the door," is therefore synonymous with the word "sin" in Romans 6-8 and it is a personification but different from the word "sins" which is the very action of the person.

Therefore, "Sin" is a person (Satan) expressing himself through our humanity. Then "sins" are the forms of manifestation that Sin takes, somewhat like root and fruit. If a gardener had a weed in his garden, he would not go out daily and cut off the top (sins) of the weed, he would permanently eliminate the weed by cutting it out at the root (Sin). The Cross has provided permanent deliverance to the sin problem. John the Baptist declares that Jesus, "the Lamb of God, takes away the **sin** (not sins) of the world" (John 1:29) and does it by "laying an ax to the **root**" (Matt. 3:10).

What and how did we die to sin? We must first understand what it means to be "in Christ." Who is "in Christ?" Every born again Christian is officially genetically and legally in union with Christ. And He is also in union with them through the power of the Holy Spirit (John 14:20).

The Bible says that all born again people were in union with Christ when God the Father reconciled the world unto himself (II Corinthians 5:19). All believers were "in Christ" at His crucifixion (Rom.6:3); we were "in Christ" when He was buried (Col.2:12); we were "in Christ" when He came out of the grave (Eph.2:5). We are "in Christ" as He was enthroned Lord of Heaven (I Cor.2:8&Eph.1:20-21); Lord of earth (Isa.66:1); Lord of the Cross; Lord of the grave; Lord of Hell (Acts 2:31); Lord of resurrection, and Lord over His ascended position far above all principalities and powers (Eph.1:21&2:5-6); and finally we are "in union with Christ" as He is crowned Lord of all (Gal.4:1b & Rev.17:14).

Since we were in Christ at His crucifixion, then what happened at the Cross? IICor.5:21 says, "For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." God the Father made Christ Jesus sin, on our behalf, in order that we might be made the righteousness of God. Christ did the work of the Cross in history, in order that we might simply receive and appropriate the benefits of that finished work, and by the miracle of the Holy Spirit, know that we know, that we do not have our own righteousness, for Christ is our righteousness (Phil 3:9).

How could the Son of God be made sin, and why? And what does it mean, "He was made sin?" The sacrificial Lamb of God was made sin, which was the sum total of what we humans BECAME through Adam's Fall. We, through the fall, are all sin-soaked, satanic-indwelt humanity (Eph.2:2-3). Jesus was made Satan-indwelt humanity at the Cross, in order that we might be made Christ-indwelt humanity. It was an exchange of natures.

Think about this: Why the body of Christ? A body is a vessel, or the dwelling place for a spirit, and a medium by which the spirit manifests itself. Through the Fall, all of mankind became saturated with Satan's spirit. God poured Satan's spirit into Jesus' body, for He was made Sin's root, which is the satanic nature as well as its fruit which are Sin's deadly consequences.

Is this offensive to you? We don't like to think of Jesus like that-but love deems it necessary, because a deliverer has to be like the ones he is to deliver. Animal sacrifices couldn't take away sin, nor deliver the person who is in bondage. It took a sinless human to deliver the human race, and only the perfect man, Jesus, the Son of God, who is God Himself, could be the one.

We need to understand what death means from the biblical standpoint. Death does not mean annihilation, **it means separation**. When your spirit separates from your body, you are dead. Your spirit goes one place and your body another. When Jesus died, his Spirit/soul went to Hades (I Peter 3:19) while his body was still in the tomb. The day Jesus died all of humanity was separated from its hellish bondages as well as Sin's deadly consequences (Rom.6:2). The satanic spirit left Jesus' body and He died. Jesus had beforehand prophesied in John 12:31, "Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the prince of this world be cast out." Cast out of what, or whom? When the sin soaked spirit of Satan departed from Jesus, sin and death were defeated and Satan's reign and dominion in mankind was conquered. Yet, Christ's death was not enough to completely restore us as "New Creatures." There had to be more.

Why am I using the word "Hades" instead of Hell? Bible students know well that Hades is the Old Testament's place of waiting for both the righteous as well as the unrighteous. According to the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke.16:19-31), Hades, being the same word as the Hebrew word "Sheol," is the place provided for the dead before Christ's resurrection and ascension. According to the parable there was "a great gulf fixed" dividing the abode of the saved and the lost. One side is where the believers rested in peace and found comfort in Abraham's bosom, while on the other side, the unsaved lived in the hellish torment.

The day Christ died, His Spirit man went to this place called "Hades" to do three things: First to show all principalities and powers that His death had triumphed and spoiled their claim on mankind

(Col. 2:15), and to openly mock Satan for his attempt to destroy the Son of God, demonstrating that the very attempt was Christ's trump card to destroy Satan's power of death over mankind (Col.2:15&Heb.2:14). Secondly, Jesus regained mankind's lost dominion over earth. And thirdly, Jesus went to "Hades" to raise Abraham with all his believing "seed" to heaven prepared for them. Ephesians 4:8-10 says, "When He ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things." Our Champion and King, Christ Jesus Himself, opened the Heavenly Gates for all believers, thereby ushering the Old Testament believers into the very presence of God.

But wait a minute, how can He raise fallen mankind out of Hades and into the heavenly presence of God? Aren't we justified by His resurrection (Romans 4:25)? Let us go back to the tomb before the resurrection: according to the scriptures, our humanity as well as all redeemed man, both past, present, and future are still in Jesus' body in the tomb, we were dead, and buried. Through Jesus' death we are now released from Satan's "spirit of error." However, unless Jesus is raised from the dead, humanity will remain dead with Him in the tomb (I Cor. 15:17). The glory of our Salvation is in the strength of Christ's resurrection. By the resurrection power of God's (Shekinah) Glory, Jesus was released from Hades (Rom.6:4;Act.2:26-27), and at the same time Glory raised His dead body from the tomb, and we with Him (Eph.2:6). Jesus couldn't get Himself out of hell, but praise the Lord, "Christ was raised up from the dead by the Glory of the Father" (Rom.6:4) and all the "world" with him (II Cor.5:19).

This one divine sacrifice has birthed a new species of human beings into existence. These "New Creatures" are justified, sanctified, glorified (Rom.8:30) and therefore perfected forever (Heb.10:14) by this one act of sacrifice which was followed by the Father's faithfulness when He raised Him from the dead. Glory to God.

The unabridged book, Destined for the Throne, by Paul Billheimer is the clearest presentation I know on this subject:

"As sons of God, begotten by Him, incorporating into their fundamental being and nature the very "genes" of God, they rank above all other created beings and are elevated to the most sublime height possible short of becoming members of the Trinity itself. Although, Christ is the unique and only begotten Eternal Son, yet He does not retain His glory for Himself alone for He has declared, "The glory which thou gavest me, I have given them" (John 17:22). Therefore, the redeemed will share His glory, His rulership, and His dominion as truly responsible princes of the Realm."¹

"You are dead," the Bible declares to us in Colossians 3:3. Your life is hid with Christ in God. Consider yourself dead to the misuse of your bodily members such as fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and greedy lust, which is idolatry. Colossians goes on to declare: Stop lying...stop declaring the lies about yourself. Know that you have already put off the "old man" with his deeds. Recognize yourself dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom.6:11). Did you hear that! You have already died and put off the evil deeds of the flesh. Consider it so, according to your faith you are made whole. But also consider it true that you **have already** put on the "New Man" who is renewed in the full knowledge after the image of Him who created you. You are whole, complete, and lacking nothing. That is what the Cross has done for you.

¹ Destined for the Throne; by Paul Billheimer

Do we really get it? How can we grasp such a high, lofty and awesome inheritance? Just receive it as a little child and don't try to understand it. Spirit understanding gradually comes after our obedience of faith, but never **before** faith. Simply receive it, and it is yours.

Let me sum up this part by quoting something by Martin Luther that profoundly states:

"The incomparable benefit of faith is that it unites the soul with Christ as a bride is united with her bridegroom. By this mystery, as the Apostle teaches, Christ and the soul become one flesh. And if they are one flesh and there is between them a true marriage--indeed the most perfect of all marriages, since human marriages are but poor examples of this one true marriage--it follows that everything they have they hold in common, the good as well as the evil. Accordingly, the believing soul can boast and glory in whatever Christ has as though it were its own, and whatever the soul has Christ claims as his own. Let us compare these and we shall see inestimable benefits. Christ is full of grace, life, and salvation. The soul is full of sins, death, and damnation. Now let faith come between them and sins, death, and damnation will be Christ's, while grace, life, and salvation will be the soul's; for if Christ is a bridegroom, he must take upon himself the things which are his bride's and bestow upon her the things that are his. If he gives her his body and very self, how shall he not give her all that he is? And if he takes the body of the bride, how shall he not take all that is hers?²"

And also, here is a word from a little missionary, Miss Bertha Smith, from Cowpens, South Carolina. She was sent to China as a missionary but couldn't love the Chinese to whom she was called by the Lord to minister. She cried out to the Lord to send her someone to instruct her in higher Biblical truth. The Lord did, and Miss Bertha "did business" with God. Afterwards, she said: "The Lord knows, the devil knows, and I know that I've swapped lives with Jesus Christ."

A Word of Warning

Let me clear up any misunderstanding here. The whole human race has the possibility of becoming sons of God, by virtue of the provision provided. But only those who "receive Him to them gave he power to become the son of God, even to them that believe on His name" (John 1:12). I am saying this lest any would think that I am advocating, "Ultimate and Universal Reconciliation." No, I am not. The only ones that truly are reconciled are those who have "received Him." They alone are the sons of God. Whoever does not receive Christ refuses the provision provided and suffers the damning consequences. Receiving "Him" is far different than just receiving a (false) doctrine that everyone will be saved in the end. Doctrines won't save us, only the person of Jesus will save us.

The Apostle Paul warns us three times in the book of Romans concerning an often mistaken concept. "Shall we sin, that grace might abound?" This resounding question springs from the false idea that Christians have a license to freely sin because grace is so broad that it condones acts of unrighteousness. And then, sin is also thought of to be justified because by its contrast, it magnifies to us God's forgiveness and grace. Paul quickly heralds back to this fleshly false concept with an emphatic "God Forbid." The whole point of Romans 6-8, God's revelation concerning our union with Christ, is to reveal the provision provided at the Cross by Christ's death and burial from **sin's** bondages, and His resurrection providing His very life which victoriously releases us from the bondage of **sin**. However, God's grace never, never justifies **sin**.

With these points made, we can go forward to discover what it means to be dead to the law.

² from "[Christian Liberty](#)" by Martin Luther

(PART TWO)
"Dead to the Law"
(Rom.7:4)



"DEAD TO THE LAW" BY THE BODY DEATH, TO BE FREELY JOINED TO CHRIST

Free from Sin's Dominion

How does the Christian know freedom from **sin's** dominion? This is the very question answered in Paul's presentation in the Romans 6-8. The furtherance of the Gospel, or "the rest of the Gospel," as some would say, is presented here in these glorious chapters. It is through the bodily death of Jesus that delivers us in the "present". Salvation from our past sins is assured to us through the blood. However, our daily deliverance from sin's dominion and power is provided for us in the **precious body** of Christ. Romans 5:10 says, We shall be saved daily by His resurrection life. How is that? Christ was made sin on our behalf that we might be made a "New Creature" i.e. a "New Man." That also means that we are "dead to sin." God made Jesus' precious body receive sin (Satan indwelt humanity) when He was on the Cross (II Corinthians 5:21). Christ died representing us ("made sin") bearing as us that sin nature in His death, so that out of our bodies went the false satanic nature forever. Christ, in His risen body, representing us, raised us up with His own divine nature of Holiness making us Christ indwelt humanity. We were thus made a new race of beings, a new man, a holy nation, and the body of Christ.

Another pertinent question answered in Romans 6-7 is; What gives **sin** its power over us Christians? The answer comes alive in the early verses of Romans 7. The body death also renders us "**dead to the law.**" What does that mean? As long as we falsely think that we have an independent self that is capable in itself to keep God's law, we are not free from sin—for it has power over us ("The strength of sin is the law"). Sin gets its power over us because we falsely think that we are independent selves and we can strive and try in our own power to keep ourselves free from sin by producing our own righteousness. Paul experienced tremendous struggle with relentless defeating consequences while believing that lie in Romans 7. Paul was enlightened when he, by revelation, understood that the root of his sinning came from self-effort, (trying to become,) which is shockingly an expression of Satan (Romans 7:17). Satan was deceiving him to believe that he had his own life and strength to live it. When the lie is exposed, then Paul was conditioned to leap by faith and know that he is dead to sin/Satan (Romans 6:2) as well as the law, (Romans 7:4) and alive to Christ, his very life. At the Cross, "God sent his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, for sin, and condemned sin in the flesh".

Then how do we walk in the Spirit and live the victorious Christian life free from **sin**? The answers to the walk of faith as Spirit sons is presented in Romans 8--As we walk in the Spirit of whom we really are, Christ lives our life. It is only as Christ lives our life that we are freed from sin's dominion and power. However, as long as we are in this fallen body, we will be within calling distance to sins/ Satan's presence and temptations, and can slip into believing in ourselves again. The blood is always our available provision whenever that rarely happens. We will not be free from Satan's temptations on us until we get our new bodies.

John writes in his first epistle, "I write unto you that you sin not" (1 John 2:1). So the union message and experience of sanctification is all about deliverance from **sin's** nature, and **sin's** power, but not its presence nor its temptations. Temptations are good for us Spirit people, for they provide us with a good practice of faith. Our temptations, when rightly used by God, can be generated into redemptive words of faith furthering the Kingdom of God. I always call our temptations "God's calling card," calling us to creative faith for ourselves as well as for others.

Two Aspects to the Body Death

The "body death of Christ" has two aspects. One: through the body death of Christ, we are "DEAD TO SIN" that is, the "Old Nature" (Rom.6:2-6). And two: through the "body death of Christ" we are "DEAD TO THE LAW" that is, how we function, either by law or by grace (Rom.7:4).

With our Old Nature having been crucified with Christ, then we are set free from operating **as if** we are still under the law of our old husband, Satan. When under the law of our old husband, we operated separate from Christ, so we had to strive by self-effort to accomplish a legalistic righteousness, which never justified us. But now we are free from the Law of our old husband which is striving to become, because the body death frees us from the Old Man (Satan) who automatically causes us to live by self-effort.

The Law doesn't die, and neither does the human self. What died? It is the old False illusionary Self who supposes we can please God by striving to keep all the should's and ought's of the law. He is the one who died. Who is He? It is our Old husband and life's deceiver, Satan. He is the one who made us think and therefore live independently from God. And he is the one who made us think that we can be righteous by human self-effort.

Death means separation, not annihilation. So by the body death we are separated from the satanic nature who automatically operated us by his own supposed self-power. By the Cross, I am free from the old nature and now have a New Nature in Christ. Christ operates in me spontaneously by faith, and not by self-effort.

"Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to Him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God" (Romans 7:4).

Since we are delivered from the old sinful nature, which is Satan in us, by the body death, then why do we still sin? This question is exactly what Paul is addressing in Romans seven. Technically, we are are "dead to sin" by the bodily death and resurrection of Christ (Romans 6:2). Yet experientially, it doesn't seem to work too well, because there is yet one all important final lesson to learn, and it has to do with our supposed self-sufficiency. That is why Paul brings out the **second** fact that by the body death, we are also "**dead to the law.**" For the outer law presupposes that we have a life of our own with the power to live and keep the law by self-effort. God must expose this lie, so He uses the law to accomplish just that.

Self-sufficient self thought patterns run deep in our consciousness. These false patterns were put into mankind by Satan at the fall. It is really **his** mentality. When Romans 6:6 says, "Knowing this

that our old man has been crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin," it means that the old satanic thought patterns were put to death with Christ on the cross, releasing **my spirit** from this lying satanic spirit. The verse goes on to say that the full purpose of this release is to destroy "the body of sin," which is satanic self-effort expressed in **my humanity**. Don't most of us Christians say this to ourselves: "**I will** do better next time, that is, if I try harder."

The Satanic "**I will**" infected mankind at the Fall. This infection is so deep in our consciousness that we falsely believe the human container can willfully do the works of God. "**I will** do the works of God, or **I will** be like Jesus, or even **I will** keep myself from evil." These are false lies that most Christians live by. That is why it is absolutely necessary for the Holy Spirit to expose this falsehood. We can never know the glory of being a perfectly empty container until this exposure comes.

The mystery begins to unravel in Romans 6:14, "sin shall not have dominion over us because we are not under the law, but under grace." Now if we turn this verse around we will see what it is saying: Sin **shall** have dominion over you if you are **under the law!** A self that tries to keep the law (I ought to perform) by self-effort operates from a false illusionary power. I Corinthians 15:56 says, "the strength of sin is the law." The more we try, the more the law shouts at us to do more. So, trying to do good becomes the believer's greatest sin. That is very subtle, because it seems good. Yet Satan himself was not trying to be evil when he said, "I will be like the most High God" (Isa. 14:14). He was trying to be good like God. So like Paul in Romans 7:19, **trying to be good became his evil.**

Human performance based on self-sufficiency is the mentality of a satanic realm that invaded our **consciousness** through the Fall and continues to hold us in bondage as long as we live from it. There is a scripture in Hebrews 9:14 that promises us that through the cross we will have a cleansed consciousness: "Purge (cleanse) your consciousness from dead works to serve a living God." And again in Hebrew 10:2, "Once purged we should have no more consciousness of sins."

We Christians are more "sin" conscious than "Christ" conscious. The scriptures are clear, Christians are provided a way through the cross to be cleansed of sin, as well as from a condemned sin-consciousness, and Romans 7 shows us how.

The unknown factor in the Christian is that the human is, and always has been, the instrument of someone else. Yet in Romans 7, the one manipulating Paul is Satan. "The evil which I **would** not, that I do;-Oh wretched man that I am, who will deliver me from this body of death" (Romans 7:19&24). Our problem is that we have not yet discovered the secret concerning our humanity, and the way to discover it is through the roller coaster dilemma of trying and failing.

Man has to be broken under the bondage of Satan because he must see the one simple fact that he is only a vessel. In Romans 7 Paul is being controlled by Satan, when he is actually a child of God. What opposites! Heaven and hell in the same body. I tell you it is the most radical situation any man can be in. The self is shattered into a million pieces. All the false idols of "**I can do it**" crumble. The false pride that is built on the foundation of false goodness falls on its face before the commandment of "Thou shall have no other gods before me." We must be naked and stripped of all vain ideas of self-improvement;-then we will finally see our total helplessness. Before I was a Christian I had to see myself utterly hopeless without Christ, and now I have to see myself utterly helpless and weak as a born-again person. Hopeless sinners and helpless saints. Both are necessary!

Weak humanity is always and only a vessel, a simple clay pot, nothing more than a helpless container of someone else. The Christian cannot really unite in oneness to her true husband, Christ, while still half way thinking she is able to do some good. The truth is that we (the human) have never been able to **produce** one ounce of good, nor one ounce of evil apart from our husband

and mate. For the human (the female) is a neutral container and not the producer of her own content.

“LAW IS HOW A THING WORKS”

We either function by “The Law of Spirit and Life”, or we function by “the law of sin and death”, which is it?

(Rom.8:2)

The law (principle) of satanic sin and death works this way: The creation tries and strives to become like the Creator (Isa. 14:14). Satan in us, automatically operates by self-sufficient-effort. There need not be any training at all. Self-sufficiency is built into humanities make-up.

OR

The “Royal Law” (principle) of Christ works this way: Resting in the Power and Wisdom of Christ (James 2:8; John14:10). **Christ in us is automatically operating by faith.** No one has to teach you. You will spontaneously be who you are.

I liken it to a new operating system that has been imparted to us by the Holy Spirit. This operating system sees God in everyone. God is either shutting people up in unbelief, so He can have mercy on them. Or, He is seeing Christ being formed in those who have found mercy. My good friend, Fran Giles once asked the Lord, “How can I see God in everybody?” The Lord said back to her, “Oh Fran, I am there, I am either trying to get **in** the unbelievers, or trying to get **out** of the ones who know Me.”

Christ is our Chief operating system. Love, mercy, forgiveness, and no-condemnation is the Spirit of this operating system. Faithfulness, long-suffering, purity are part of how this operating system naturally works. Faith is its fuel, and Wisdom is its oil. Righteousness is natural, and peace is common to this system. This operating system is the original intended work-piece of its Maker. This operating system automatically operates like clockwork, to those who put their trust in their Maker. The Maker of the operating system is God the Father, the operating system is the Son, and the actual operation is the Holy Spirit. “I will put My Spirit within you and **cause** you to walk in my ways” (Eze.36:27).

Now, if you still have the old satanic operating system operating you, you will have to work hard to maintain your life. Striving and trying is natural to you. You will be proud of your own accomplishments. You will probably justify and hide your sins and blame others when things don’t work out. Nothing will ever be enough to fill your need for things to make you feel better, or your desire to be somebody. You will easily lie to cover yourself. You will do anything to get ahead. You will envy and covet what others have. You will judge others with unreasonable standards. You may even be religious, but your religion only justifies your ungodly behavior, and separates you from others who don’t believe like you do. You will try and try to improve yourself through financial gain, personal achievements, and with more things and gadgets to keep up appearances. You will always look down on people that don’t have as much as you do. You don’t have to teach this operating system how to misbehave, or to sin, it is built into the system and spontaneously operates in self-centered sin. **This is the Law (sin and death) of your Old Husband, Satan which is** automatic to its particular operating system.

Are you beginning to get the picture? The Old operating System (Satan operating in you), comes out through the Cross, and a whole New operating System (Christ operating you), comes in. Both systems work automatically. You don’t have to learn a “how to” at all. You simply receive the person of Christ, live by faith in Him, and His new Life is imparted to you. Receive it by faith and He has your back, as the saying goes. He is your Maker, so He knows how you work. He knows how to be your maintenance man, your keeper, and your warranty and guarantee. The key to all of this is

our believing. You do the believing, He does the rest. **This is the law (Spirit and Life) of your New Husband, Christ.**

Hear the Gospel

We are dead, resurrected and in union with Christ which makes you a whole new being and gives you a whole new mentality and identity. Since the Old man, (union with Satan) is dead, that "self centered" power source is gone in us. Think about it, what can a dead person do? "WELL, NOTHING"! Basically, we don't live any more. We have to totally depend on the RESURRECTED LIFE of Christ to be our life. So therefore we are crucified with Christ, we are raised in union with Christ, and ascended in union with Christ. That is the living gospel in operation.

As long as Satan lies to you, and you believe him, you are the one who gives him power. And, if you want to talk about "**free will**", here it is: it is **your choice**...Which is it? Believe Satan's lies, or believe the truth of the Gospel? When a Christian believes he is living his own life, a false reality comes into being. Satan counterfeits the truth and changes it into a lie thus deceiving the Christian who believes it. This is the very nature of deception. It is exactly how Satan gets power over Christians. "A little leaven leavens the whole lump". The answer to this dilemma is as simple as switching minds: 'you are not in the flesh, you are in the Spirit in union with Christ' (Romans 8:9)! 'You are not just you, you are joined to Christ; He is your life' (I Cor. 6:17; Col. 3:4).

Colossians 3:9 says, "Lie not one to another seeing you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him." Do you hear what the scripture is saying? STOP lying about yourself. You **already have** put off the old man (Romans 6:6) and you **have already** put on the New Man. "When did I do that", you ask?...When you were put into Christ at your conversion. You were baptized into union with Him. He did it at the Cross for you and as you. Therefore, you derive your righteousness and holiness from His Life, and declare by faith that you are righteous and holy by virtue of His righteousness in you.

Jesus Christ redeemed us; He reconciled us to the Father; He re-gened us with a new genealogy; He restored our soul; He healed our body; He justified us; He sanctified us; And, He did it all by the transforming power of the Cross. Christ was made sin on our behalf that we might be made His righteousness (II Cor. 5:21). Sin is being indwelt with a satanic sin nature producing self-centeredness, blindness, pride of life, vain glory, love of the world, the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh, envy, strife, and separation from God. Christ died to all these misuses and has raised us up together in union with Himself in His holy life making us into a New Creation. Believe God and live in union with Christ.

"According as his **divine power** has given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that has called you to glory and virtue; Whereby are given unto us exceedingly great and precious promises, that by these ye might be **partakers** of the **divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (II Peter 1:3-4).

Back to my ridiculous LIVING-room/basement illustration (See Programs 2 & 3. See yourself in the LIVING ROOM, and not in the dark basement, because the true reality is that you really are in the LIVING Royal Palace seated with Christ far above all demonic rule. Live in the light of the "LIVING ROOM"...Dance there, sing there, and praise the Lord there; experience peace, love, joy; know ascended Power and Divine Wisdom.

By all means see yourself by faith in the Living Room and not in the dreadful, fearful dark basement. You are in the Kingdom of Light. You have been translated out of the kingdom of

darkness and are definitely not in darkness. You are a child of light, "walk as children of light" (1 John 1:6-7).