

### Devotional Questions – Romans 6:15-23

1. *What is the difference between the question in Romans 6:15 and the question in Romans 6:1?*
2. *What was necessary to become free from sin (Romans 6:17-18)?*
3. *What command is so important that Paul repeats it twice (Romans 6:13, 19)?*
4. *How do we present your members as slaves to righteousness for holiness\* (Romans 6:19)?*  
\*The correct expression is **“servants to righteousness unto holiness.”** See *Romans 1 Part 1, Introductory Note on Romans 1:1* and the term **“servant”** [www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/) p 2. **“Slaves”** in the New Testament are **“merchandise”** Revelation 18:11, 12, 13 of Rome **“MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH”** Revelation 17:5 whereas Paul says of Christian believers that **“ye are Christ’s and Christ is God’s”** 1 Corinthians 3:23.
5. *What is the result of presenting your members as slaves to righteousness\* (Romans 6:19)?*  
\*The correct expression is **“yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.”** See remarks in *Question 4* with respect to the term **“slaves”** and note this extract from *Romans 6 Part 1, Question 8* on the term **“present.”** The correct term is **“yield.”** **“Offer”** or **“present”** are therefore wrong because they don’t indicate submission for service, which **“yield”** does. The key cross reference to Romans 6:13, which the NIVs, NKJV break but which those corruptions are forced to acknowledge in their wording is Hezekiah’s exhortation to Israel, directly applicable to today’s believer as a safeguard against **“wickedly...departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments”** Daniel 9:5. **“Now be ye not stiffnecked, as your fathers were, but yield yourselves unto the LORD, and enter into his sanctuary, which he hath sanctified for ever: and serve the LORD your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you”** 2 Chronicles 30:8.
6. *What does ‘you were free from the control of righteousness’\* mean (Romans 6:20)?* \*The correct expression is **“free from righteousness.”** Insertion of the words **“the control of”** wrongly imposes slavery on today’s believer. See remarks in *Question 4*.
7. *What three steps are described that lead to eternal life (Romans 6:22)?*
  - i.
  - ii.
  - iii.
8. *What are the contrasts that make God’s salvation incredible (Romans 6:23)?*

## Devotional Questions – Romans 6:15-23, Answers to Questions

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Romans* pp 244-250 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 1396, 1493-1494 for detailed comment.

1. *What is the difference between the question in Romans 6:15 and the question in Romans 6:1?*

Romans 6:1-2 state ***"...Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid..."***

Romans 6:15 states ***"...shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid."***

Romans 6:1 asks if sin is the means of grace, Romans 6:15 asks if grace is the means of sin. God forbids both heresies. Peter summarises the Lord's will for today's believer. ***"But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy"*** 1 Peter 1:15-16.

2. *What was necessary to become free from sin (Romans 6:17-18)?*

Romans 6:17 states ***"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."***

The necessity for freedom from sin was and is heart obedience to ***"the apostles' doctrine"*** Acts 2:42 as Paul sets it out for the Thessalonians who, as should be the case for today's believer, thereby became recipients of ***"the gospel of the grace of God"*** Acts 20:24, electors of God, followers of the apostles and of the Lord Jesus Christ, spiritual fruit-bearers and ensamples to other believers. That in full is what Paul desires for the Romans as he states later in his letter. ***"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God"*** Romans 12:1-2.

***"Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God. For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake: And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost: So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia"*** 1 Thessalonians 1:4-7.

3. *What command is so important that Paul repeats it twice (Romans 6:13, 19)?*

Romans 6:13 states ***"...yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God."***

Romans 6:19 states ***"...even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness."***

The Macedonians well illustrate Romans 6:13, 19 in that they gave themselves to God and His apostles and served righteously and holily by their liberal giving in support of other believers. Such support as they could give no doubt derived from the equivalent tent-making on their part Acts 18:3 as Paul later testified with respect to yielding his own members as instruments and servants of righteousness unto God and unto holiness. ***"Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me"*** Acts 20:34.

***"Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God"*** 2 Corinthians 8:1-5.

Peter sums up the repeated command of Romans 6:13, 19 in principle *and its intended outcome* that today's believer should aim to put into practice.

**“As every man hath received the gift, *even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen*”**  
1 Peter 4:10-11.

4. *How do we present your members as slaves to righteousness for holiness\* (Romans 6:19)?*  
\*The correct expression is **“servants to righteousness unto holiness.”** See *Romans 1 Part 1, Introductory Note on Romans 1:1 and the term “servant”* [www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/) p 2. **“Slaves”** in the New Testament are **“merchandise”** Revelation 18:11, 12, 13 of Rome **“MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH”** Revelation 17:5 whereas Paul says of Christian believers that **“ye are Christ’s and Christ is God’s”** 1 Corinthians 3:23.

See *Question 3* on Acts 20:34, 2 Corinthians 8:1-5, 1 Peter 4:10-11 and remarks.

5. *What is the result of presenting your members as slaves to righteousness\* (Romans 6:19)?*  
\*The correct expression is **“yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.”** See remarks in *Question 4* with respect to the term **“slaves”** and note this extract from *Romans 6 Part 1, Question 8* on the term **“present.”** The correct term is **“yield.”** **“Offer”** or **“present”** are therefore wrong because they don’t indicate submission for service, which **“yield”** does. The key cross reference to Romans 6:13, which the NIVs, NKJV break but which those corruptions are forced to acknowledge in their wording is Hezekiah’s exhortation to Israel, directly applicable to today’s believer as a safeguard against **“wickedly...departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments”** Daniel 9:5. **“Now be ye not stiffnecked, as your fathers were, but yield yourselves unto the LORD, and enter into his sanctuary, which he hath sanctified for ever: and serve the LORD your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you”** 2 Chronicles 30:8.

See *Question 4* on 1 Peter 4:11 **“...that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen”** and remarks. Note Paul’s exhortation for today’s believer with the same intent followed by Peter’s guidance on greeting negative reactions to a positive witness by means of members yielded as instruments and servants of righteousness unto God and unto holiness e.g. by passing out tracts such as *The Letter*. See over-page and the extract from [www.chick.com/reading/tracts/0079/0079\\_01.asp](http://www.chick.com/reading/tracts/0079/0079_01.asp).



**“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God”** 1 Corinthians 10:31.

**“If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified”** 1 Peter 4:14.

6. *What does ‘you were free from the control of righteousness’\* mean (Romans 6:20)?* \*The correct expression is **“free from righteousness.”** Insertion of the words **“the control of”** wrongly imposes slavery on today’s believer. See remarks in *Question 4*.

Romans 6:20 refers to bondage to corruption as Peter explains. **“While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage”** 2 Peter 2:19.



7. *What three steps are described that lead to eternal life (Romans 6:22)?*

These are themselves attributes of **“everlasting life”** Romans 6:22; redemption from sin, true servitude to God and spiritual life with **“fruit unto holiness”** because **“It is the spirit that quickeneth...”** John 6:63, **“(...the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)”** Ephesians 5:9 and **“God...hath also given unto us his holy Spirit”** 1 Thessalonians 4:8.

8. *What are the contrasts that make God's salvation incredible (Romans 6:23)?*

Romans 6:23 states **“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”** The contrasts are between death that is deserved for individual wrongdoing and life that is God-given and underserved through the Lord Jesus Christ of Whom Paul 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”** 2 Corinthians 5:21. See [www.areyoupretending.com/a-warning/](http://www.areyoupretending.com/a-warning/).



***Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in there at: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. [Mat 7.13-14]***