

THE SUBMISSION OF THE FLESH

Part 6 Romans Chapter Six

Romans 6:12-14

*Therefore do not let sin reign in your **mortal body**, that you should obey it in its lusts. ¹³ And do not present **your members** as instruments [weapons] of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and **your members** as instruments [weapons] of righteousness to God. ¹⁴ For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.*

Paul now starts to introduce another entity. This is our **'Mortal Body'**.

THIS IS OUR PHYSICAL BODY or UNREDEEMED FLESH'.

Paul had already begun to introduce 'OUR MORTAL BODY' 6 verses back but called it **'THE BODY OF SIN'** or **THE BODY SUBJECT TO SIN.**

Romans 6:6 **SLIDE**

*Knowing this, that our **old man** was crucified with Him, that **the body of sin** might be done away with [rendered inoperative], that we should no longer be slaves of sin.*

NB: That term does not mean a **BODY MADE OF SIN** but our physical body which is **SUBJECT TO SIN** ... OR AFFECTED BY SIN or **INFLAMED BY SIN.**

THE BODY OF SIN or SINFUL FLESH IS NOT THE OLD MAN.

NB: This **'Body of Sin'** or 'Mortal Body' or 'The Flesh' is not **'The Old Man'**.

Here in verse six of Romans six, we see these two entities listed side by side.

SLIDE THIS OLD MAN LIVED IN THE BODY OF SIN or **BODY OPEN TO SIN.**

THE BODY OF SIN or SINFUL FLESH WAS NOT CRUCIFIED.

Note carefully who it was that **WAS** crucified. It was **'THE OLD MAN'** not the mortal body. **SLIDE**

Note carefully what God has assigned for the 'Body of Sin'. **It is to be 'Rendered Inoperative'.**

THERE ARE TWO ENTITIES WITH TWO DIFFERENT SOLUTIONS

PROBLEM: CHRISTIANS DO NOT DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN THE TWO ENTITIES.

Therefore they try and overcome the flesh by crucifying it in a process called **'Dying to Self'** (This term is not in Scripture).

THEY TRY & KILL THE FLESH but it keeps rising from the dead. The more they try and kill it, the stronger it becomes.

- *Like the terminator in 'Terminator 2' every time it was killed or blown to pieces, each piece reformed ... just like us trying to kill the flesh.*

IT'S NOT GOD'S INTENTION FOR YOU TO TRY & KILL YOUR FLESH.

IT'S GOD'S INTENTION TO MAKE IT A SERVANT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS UNTIL THE DAY WHEN JESUS COMES AGAIN, WHEN THE WHOLE BODY WILL BE REDEEMED.

Romans 6:13

*... Present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and **your members** as instruments [weapons] of righteousness to God.*

YOU CAN'T CAST OUT THE FLESH

Some Christians try to cast out their fleshly habits. They go for deliverance every Sunday and experience something; but Monday morning they wake up and there it is ... waiting for them. **YOU CAN'T OVERCOME THE FLESH BY DELIVERANCE.**

SOME BELIEVE BY PRAYER & COMMITMENT THEY CAN HAVE INSTANT SANCTIFICATION.

Dr Martin Lloyd Jones says, 'As long as sin remains in my members I shall never have an experience of sudden deliverance once and forever from sin. I have known numbers of Christian people who have been miserable most of their lives because they have been seeking such a deliverance.

*They believe it is possible and have been taught it is possible that **by one act they can be rid of sin finally and completely.** They have sought it ... They have longed for it ... but they have never succeeded ... and **they feel so discouraged all their Christian life.'***

FRIENDS THIS IS WHY SOME CHRISTIANS FALL AWAY FROM CHURCH & HIDE FROM GOD. THEY FEEL LIKE SUCH FAILURES.

COUNSELLING CANNOT FIX THE FLESH.

THE OLD MAN WAS CRUCIFIED & REPLACED WITH THE NEW CREATION BUT, **THE BODY OF SIN STILL REMAINS AND WILL REMAIN UNTIL JESUS COMES AGAIN.** Then our Body will be redeemed.

This mortality shall put on immortality. (1 Corinthians 15:54)

SLIDE THE NEW MAN CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS NOW LIVES IN AN UNREDEEMED BODY CALLED – **OUR MORAL BODY** or THE BODY SUBJECT TO SIN.

NB: ONCE AGAIN, THE BODY IN ITSELF IS NOT EVIL BUT IS AN OPEN CHANNEL FOR EVIL TO COME IN AND RAVAGE IT.

PAUL OUTLINES THE RIGHT WAY OF OVERCOMING SINFUL FLESH

1. THE FIRST STEP IN OVERCOMING THE SINFUL FLESH IS TO KNOW YOU ARE ENTIRELY SEPERATED FROM SIN.

Romans 6:12

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

'THEREFORE' refers to verse 11, **'WE ARE DEAD TO SIN' – SEPERATED COMPLETELY FROM SIN** IN A STATE OF SINLESS PERFECTION. (Romans 6:11)

WE START FROM A COMPLETELY SEPERATED PLACE OF SINLESSNESS.

If this thinking is not in place we have no standing from which to overcome the flesh. WE WILL BE IN THE FLESH TRYING TO OVERCOME THE FLESH which is what many Christians try and do.

'THE NEW YOU' IS NOT YOUR FLESH. **'YOU'** ARE A COMPLETELY SEPERATE ENTITY. When your body sins, it's not **'THE NEW YOU'** that sins!

Romans 7:20

... If I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

NB: 'The death of the old man' takes priority over 'Rendering the body of sin inoperative'. We must know **WHO** we are and **HOW** we are!

2. THE SECOND STEP IN OVERCOMING THE SINFUL FLESH IS TO KNOW YOU HAVE COMPLETE AUTHORITY OVER THE FLESH. SLIDE

Romans 6:12

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

DON'T ALLOW SIN TO REIGN IN YOUR BODY

- SIN ONCE DID REIGN IN US
- SIN WANTS TO REIGN IN US AND OVERCOME US
- SIN CAN STILL REIGN IN US ... IF WE ALLOW IT & ONLY IF WE ALLOW IT.

Notice the language about the flesh in Romans 7:10

Sin only dwells in the flesh ... or exists in the flesh or inhabits the flesh ...

NOW IN GRACE WE'VE BEEN BROUGHT TO A POSITION OF ULTIMATE AUTHORITY.

Romans 6:14 **SLIDE**

For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

(Also Romans 5:17)

ULTIMATE CONTROL OVER FLESH

NB: This instruction implies that we have the authority to control the flesh.

THIS IS BECAUSE WE ARE UNDER THE REIGN OF GRACE & ONLY AS WE SUBMIT TO THIS GRACE DO WE HAVE THIS AUTHORITY.

Here we now have an authoritative position where we are able to bring the flesh into submission.

WE OPERATE FROM A GREATER PLACE ... A SUPERIOR PLACE.

A sinner does not have a choice ... WE HAVE A CHOICE ... TAKE CONTROL.

WE HAVE BEEN CREATED TO REIGN IN LIFE. THIS IS AUTHORITY.

FOR TOO LONG WE HAVE BEEN INSIPID ... BANAL ... WISHY-WASHY, WEAK AND 'MAMBY PAMBY' ... FEEBLE, PATHETIC, COWARDLY, SPINELESS, FAINTHEARTED, WEAK-WILLED & TIMID.

WE'VE CRIED TO GOD TO DELIVER US FROM SIN LIKE PATHETIC BEGGARS.

'Oh Lord, I'm sorry ... I've sinned again ... Forgive me Lord ... I didn't mean to...'

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

- YOU ARE DENYING WHO YOU ARE
- YOU ARE GIVING SIN & SATAN THE POWER OVER YOU
- YOU ARE ABDICATING YOUR POSITION

Adam did it in the garden ... he became a 'pathetic man', subject to his emotions and came under the control of Eve who was under the control of the serpent.

ADAM WAS WITH HER BUT SAID NOTHING. He should have been a man.

1 Corinthians 16:13

*Watch you; stand firm in the faith; **act like men; be strong.***

(KJV QUIT YOU LIKE A MAN)

HERE IT IS

RECKON IN YOUR HEAD WHO YOU ARE AND STAND UP AND TAKE CONTROL.

3. THE THIRD STEP IN OVERCOMING SINFUL FLESH IS TO FALL INTO GOD'S RESURRECTION POWER WITHIN US.

Romans 6:13 SLIDE

... Present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments [weapons] of righteousness to God.

NB: We ourselves are told to first present ourselves to God in our RESURRECTED STATE – ‘alive from the dead’, then secondly our members – our ‘Mortal Body’ - as a spoil of war.

THE FLESH IS CREATED TO SERVE

This instruction implies that the flesh will obey. IT EITHER CONTROLS US OR WE CONTROL IT.

ROMANS 6:16

Do you not know that to whom you yield yourselves as slaves for obedience, you are slaves to him whom you obey, whether of sin to death, or of obedience to righteousness?

WE HAVE A CHOICE TO YIELD OURSELVES TO THE HIGHER POWER WITHIN US RATHER THAN TO THE POWER OF SIN THAT DWELLS IN OUR FLESH.

When we do bow to God, our flesh under our control will also bow and Jesus will do the rest.

You'll find Christ's resurrected power harnessing the flesh as it relinquishes its attempt of trying to entice and tempt you away.

James 1:14 KJV

... Every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

We should say to the flesh as we bow, ‘THIS IS YOUR NEW MASTER NOW. ALL YOUR PASSIONS NOW BELONG TO HIM. THIS IS WHO WE NOW SERVE.’

PAUL TELLS US THAT THIS UNREDEEMED FLESH MAN WITH ALL ITS PASSIONS ... SENSATIVITIES ... FEELING ... CAN NOW BE MADE TO SERVE GOD.