**HOPEWELL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

**MID-DAY BIBLE STUDY**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024**

**TEXT: ROMANS 6:15-23**

**TITLE: "PLEDGING OUR ALLEGIANCE"**

**ROMANS 6:15-23 (ESV)**

15—What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!

16—Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

17—But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed,

18—and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

19—I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

20—For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

21—But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.

22—But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.

23—For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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**Basic Points:**

* This chapter concerns itself with the "expected" change in our behavior and thinking once we have been born again. (2 Corinthians 5:17).
* All of this is made possible through the blood payment of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross. And His resurrection has resulted in our empowerment.
* Of course there is an adjustment period we all will experience—but the interest and effect of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives means that change is going to manifest.
* What do you think when professing Christians have a desire to remain in some sinful endeavors? Or try to justify their participation in such?
* What is it that the Apostle Paul asks the believers to consider in verses 1 and 2 of this chapter? How often do you consider the same…even when faced with temptation?
* When we are tempted to sin, do we also hear the voice of the Spirit who gives us our way of escape? (1 Corinthians 10:13)
* When we do find ourselves at fault because we have sinned, do we know our way back to productivity and peace? (1 John 1:9)

**Some Nuggets from the Text:**

1. Our **Liberty** (v. 15)—Freedom exists. The payment of Jesus does not take away our right to choose sin or to choose salvation (sanctification). We must make our choice
2. Our **Leaning** (v. 16)—Loyalty that begins in the heart…and manifests with body. You lend yourself to what you love—and to whom you love. (Matthew 6:24)
3. Our **Learning** (v. 17-18)—Doctrine matters in the life of the believer. It changes our minds by what it presents that challenges our thinking and our ways. It is the power that brings about *conformation* through *transformation*.
4. Our **Legacy** (v. 19-22)—The fruit that remains, lasts. Some things we have done make us ashamed that it was us that did them. And sometimes even ashamed that we once thought those things. But now, praise God, we have been set free from those things, even the penalty of them. The fruit we get now, we look forward to seeing it manifest—because it pertains to sanctification and eternal life.
5. Our **Lord** (v. 23)—We receive mercy and grace and peace from God, where we deserved our death as the actual payment for our sins. But in our place to receive that punishment was Christ Jesus…God's gift to mankind (John 3:16-17; Titus 2:11). Therefore our allegiance is to Him forever. He has now been sanctified in our hearts as Lord and Savior (1 Peter 3:15). Gratitude and thankfulness to Him.

*~~ MANY BLESSINGS AND MUCH FRUIT IN LIVING FOR JESUS!! ~~*

**pastor larry davidson. Jr.**

**hmbc / 2024**