

## **Enslaved to Habitual Thinking Patterns**

**(Rom 6-7)** Our position in Christ, identified with His death, burial & resurrection is the basis for the believer's ability to progressively live victoriously in Phase II, daily living.

<b>Rom. 6:1-11</b>	<b>Position in Christ</b>	<b>→</b>	<b>Two Great Possibilities</b>
<b>Rom. 6:12-23</b>	<b>Practical Victory</b>	<b>→</b>	<b>Breaking free from sinful habits of thinking &amp; behavior</b>

### **Review:**

**Rom 6:4** Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so that we too might walk in newness of life. First Possibility – walk in newness of life

### **New Life in Christ – The New Man**

- God the Holy Spirit creates (**bara**) a sphere of being that enables spiritual understanding (1Cor 2:10-16) produces the divine character of Christ – in God's pattern in Perfect Righteousness (+R) & holiness from the truth.
- When exercising the Filling of the Holy Spirit, the believer fulfills the righteous conditions of the Law.
- Filling of the Holy Spirit produces the divine nature of Christ in the believer, enabling us to learn & live based on the same mind-set of Jesus.
- Walking in the new life is the same idea as putting on the New Man (Eph 4:24)

**Rom 6:6** knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, so that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin

### **Tearing Down the Old Man**

- The Old Self was crucified with Christ giving us positional victory of the flesh
- Positional victory in Christ sets up the potential for practical victory in daily life
- At salvation, practical victory over the effects of Adam's Original sin is only potentially based on understanding the old man operating system & use the divine assets from God the Holy Spirit to break free from its habituated slavery.
- Grace has provided everything we need for victory, dependent on our life choices.

### **Summary:**

- Our permanent position in Christ opens both temporal & eternal possibilities for us.
- Phase 2 practical life is all potential & possibilities, dependent upon the bel's volitional choices
- Grace provides for all our permanent & practical needs – God the Holy Spirit sets everything up so that all we must do and can do is choose to believe and idea from the Old Man system or New Man system.
- Paul explains from 6:12 – Ch 7 that consistent choosing causes habituation, habits & patterns of thinking to which we give control – enslaved.

**6:12-14 – Rulership of the Old Sin Nature**

**6:15-23 – Yielding producing Enslavement – Habituation**

**Rom 6:12** stop allowing sin nature to reign in your mortal body that you should obey its desires

**Basileuo P/A/Imp** – rule a kingdom, be in charge, to control

- Pres Impv + neg me = stop an action already in progress – controlled by the Old Sin Nature since birth
- Hupakouo P/A/Inf** – to hear & obey – Pres Inf – with the result that you obey
- Epithumia** – intense desires, lust – desire attached to Old Man strategies developed under the Old Sin Nature

**Rom 6:13** and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

**paristemi** – to yield, present, make available, surrender – yield to the Old Sin Nature – yield to God

- Yield – place at one’s disposal for use – mechanics of choosing for the Old Sin Nature or Filling of the Holy Spirit
- Yielding determined by faith – one we believe in the moment will best serve us

**Rom 6:16** Do you not know that when you yield yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness?

**Doulos** – slaves; **douloo** – enslaved – compulsive choosing to surrender self to the Old Sin Nature or God

- Yield → obey → Enslaved: habituated patterns of yielding to the Old Sin Nature or God’s word

**Rom 6:19** speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. just as you yielded your body as slaves to impurity & lawlessness, causing ever increasing levels of lawlessness, so present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification

- Yield to OSN → lawlessness → cycles/patterns of increasing levels of addiction to sin
- Yield to God the Holy Spirit → righteousness → cycles/patterns of increasing levels of service to God

a. Position in Christ creates the possibilities of living in the New Man belief system

b. **Yielding:** “in the moment” choice/action resulting from believing either the lies produced by Old Man beliefs or the truth produced by God the Holy Spirit and knowledge of God’s word.

- Surrender your volition to act out beliefs formed under influence the Old Sin Nature or influence of God the Holy Spirit

c. **Enslaved** – choices become habits that through consistent use become cycles & patterns that turn into automatic reactions (sinful) or responses (righteous)

- Immaterial soul makes choices that cause the body to change, to record choices to form patterns
- Brain forms neural systems that fire automatically when faced with stimuli – automatic reactions
- Your brain has formed enduring neural pathways from **what** you chose to believe & do, networks that continue to function unconsciously even after you believed something contrary to those ideas.
- We initially developed ideas about life, love & happiness from the world around us under influence of the Old Sin Nature, stored in the brain (flesh) – Salvation doesn’t wipe out those habituated neural pathways,

d. **Ever Increasing: Yielding** → habituation (stored in brain) → enslaved to habits/patterns → momentum causes an intensification & embedding of the patterns

- Behaviors, both Righteousness (+R) and Unrighteousness (-R), consistently chosen will increase in frequency and intensity – law of diminishing return causing a lessening in gratification from the behavior.

## Summary:

1. From our birth until our new birth, we are under the condemnation of Adam’s Original Sin – Rom 8:1
2. From birth until the new birth, we are under the lordship of the Old Sin Nature – ministry God the Holy Spirit creating the new man provides an alternative to the Old Sin Nature – the flesh
3. We initially develop our beliefs out of the world and store them as habits & patterns in the brain – flesh
4. We develop spiritual beliefs by God the Holy Spirit communicating with human spirit, storing New Man beliefs in the brain, creating the existence of two belief systems, one tied to the Old Sin Nature and the other to God the Holy Spirit.
5. Our daily choices are primarily controlled by our patterns of automatic thinking that we develop through consistent choices.