

NEEDED CHANGES WHEN LIVING BY GRACE

Romans 6:5–14

In the first five chapters of Romans, Paul sets the foundation for the rest of his letter. He has set forth six all-important facts: 1) all of humanity is depraved—we've "fallen short" of God's holiness; 2) we are under the penalty of sin—we're separated from God; 3) rather than abandoning us, God provided our rescue; 4) His "rescue operation" was accomplished at the cross, where Christ died; 5) when we trust in Jesus' death and resurrection, God "justifies" us; 6) as a result, we no longer live under sin's penalty or sin's domination over us. Now that salvation from the penalty of sin has been explained, the next big issue is this: How can salvation from the power of sin become a reality? Being "saved by grace apart from works" is one thing, but being able to live and walk in the freedom of grace is quite another. Tragically, many Christians don't know how to "really live" free of sin's control. What's missing? Understanding Romans 6–8.

I. A Vital Change in Authority Over Us (vv. 1–4)

II. Some Essential Changes in Our Thinking (vv. 5–13)

- Some truths we need to KNOW (vv. 5–10)

- A reality we must CONSIDER (vv. 11–12)

- An action we should TAKE (v. 13)

III. The Crucial Change in Our Lifestyle (v. 14)