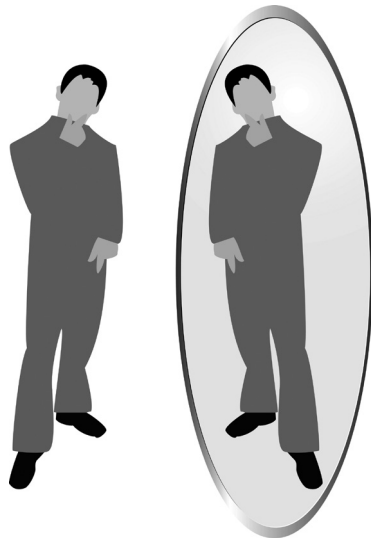


HOW TO EXPERIENCE
YOUR ONENESS *with*
CHRIST

HOW TO EXPERIENCE
YOUR ONENESS *with*
CHRIST

STUDIES IN THE ABUNDANT LIFE



GENE GOBBLE


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INTRODUCTION



Would the real you please stand up? Are you a sinner or a saint? Do you have an old man inside of you or a new man or both? Do you still have a sinful nature or do you now have a righteous nature or a combination of both?

Christians around the world come to the Lord in faith and experience the new birth and the free gift of eternal life. Then they begin to read the Word of God and learn about the Christian life and the ways of God. They also begin to attend one kind of church or another and come under the influence of preachers, teachers, and spiritual leaders who have been in the faith for some time. These spiritual leaders have varying ideas about the true nature of a child of God, which can greatly confuse young Christians.

As Christians grow spiritually, they sometimes begin to experience a hunger and thirst for righteousness that can be equal to or even exceed the intensity of conviction they experienced as the Holy Spirit revealed their sinfulness to them and drew them to Christ. They see who Jesus is, as the holy and perfect Son of God, and then they look within themselves as baby Christians, and what they see makes them sick.

They have experienced the quickening of the Spirit and they now long to be just like Jesus, with all of their hearts. They have read the verse that tells us to be holy as He is holy. Holiness becomes the quest of their Christian life. Just as a heroin addict craves more drugs, a hungry and thirsty child of God craves the righteousness of Christ.

The natural thing to do is to try and achieve this righteousness with spiritual exercises like reading and memorizing as much Scripture as possible, or fasting or witnessing or giving or making vows to do this or do that. All of these things are good and spiritually profitable, but they do not satisfy this consuming desire, this craving, this overwhelming passion to be morally and spiritually perfect in Christ. This is because the sense of perfection and completion cannot be achieved by anything we can do as Christians. This satisfaction in your spirit and soul can only be experienced through your oneness with Christ. Your oneness with Christ was actually accomplished in the work of grace that saved you. You became one with Christ at the very moment you were born again. If you have been saved from your sin, your oneness with Christ is already a spiritual reality.

The secret to coming into the conscious blessing of Christ's holiness, righteousness, perfection, love, and peace is **REALIZATION**. The only thing that has to happen for you to experience it is to *realize* it. You don't have to do anything. There is nothing you can do. This gift of being one with Christ and all of His virtues is a part of the salvation experience. Your spiritual oneness with Christ is God's gift to you, who have believed.

This study has been written for the joy and edification of all who have hungered and thirsted and literally craved perfection in Christ. The verses and passages you will study will help you **realize** your oneness with the Lord Jesus. The goal is to bring you to the point where you glory in Christ Jesus. May the **realization** of who you are in Christ and your eternal oneness with Him be a glorious revelation that brings delight and satisfaction to your inner-man until you are with the Lord.

Yours in Christ,

Gene Gobble

- ATTENTION -

Dear Friend,

As you work your way through the questions in this book, you may come across situations where you are not sure what the best answer is. As you review the particular Scripture assigned to a question, please answer the question to the best of your ability and make notes of each question you are not sure of. When you finish the book, you can then send me an email with a list of the questions you would like clarification on. I will send you an email back with the answers I had in mind when I developed the questions.

You can send your email to: **gene.gobble@gmail.com**

God bless,
Gene Gobble

HOW DOES GRACE CONQUER SIN?



Romans 6:1: What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin so that grace may abound?

Paul begins **Romans 6** by saying there are no excuses for sin in the life of a genuine born-again Christian. A Christian does not have to sin and therefore shouldn't, because of his/her relationship with Jesus Christ.

What is the relationship between sin and grace? Paul asks a crucial question. Will you get more grace from God if you continue sinning as a Christian? How do you answer Paul's question?

After thinking through Paul's question above, review **Romans 5:20** and make the connection between **Romans 6:1** and **Romans 5:20**.

Paul wrote in **Romans 5:20** that where _____ abounded, _____ did much more abound. What do you understand this to mean, at this point in your life? How does grace abound much more than sin in your life?

Which of the following interpretations do you believe is closest to the truth? Check your best choice.

- _____ The more I sin, the more grace God will give me to overcome the sin.
- _____ The more that sin abounds in the world, the more grace God will give me to overcome it.
- _____ Sin takes place in my flesh. Salvation took place in my spirit. Since I am saved in my spirit, the sins in my flesh are not important.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, I thank You that I no longer have to sin, because Your abundant grace is always sufficient in any situation I will ever face. In Jesus's name I pray. Amen!

Date

Signature

CHAPTER 2

GOD'S ANSWER!



Romans 6:2: God forbid. How can we who died to sin go on living in it?

God answers the crucial question asked in **Romans 6:1** in **Romans 6:2:**

Shall you, as a child of God, go on sinning as a means of getting more grace from God?

_____Yes _____No

From the verses below, write down what will happen if you go on sinning.

4 HOW TO EXPERIENCE YOUR ONENESS WITH CHRIST

Romans 6:23:

Proverbs 16:25:

Galatians 6:7:

Hebrews 10:26:

If you escape living in sin by being dead to it, how do you die to sin? Take a few minutes to read the rest of **Romans 6** before writing out your answer here.

When did you die to sin?

Did you die to sin once and for all, or do you have to die to sin over and over? See **Romans 6:10-11**.

If you think you are a Christian but you continue to live in sin, what does that mean? See **1 John 2:4-6**.

Was your death to sin a fact or just a theoretical idea?

~ Insights from the Greek ~

The verb “**we died**” (*apethanomen*) is an aorist indicative from the root word *apothnesko*, which means simply “**to die.**” The aorist tense is a part of the past tense system in the Greek language. The particular emphasis of this aorist verb is called the “historical aorist,” which is the normal tense used in a narrative. For example, **Mark 1:9** (NIV) records, “At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.” The historical aorist is used in this verse to simply record the past fact of Jesus coming to the Jordan River and being baptized there by John the Baptist. Paul uses the historical aorist in **Romans 6:2** to simply record the fact that we died to sin. This death to sin is not a future experience we look forward to. It is not a possibility that might be. It is a present fact (truth) because of our past experience with Christ on the cross.

The last two words “**to sin**” are also very significant. The words “**to sin**” (*te hamartia*) mean our innate sinfulness, the principle of sin within us, also referred to as the law of sin, which operated in you from the day you were born until the day you got saved. This principle of sin was passed down to you from your forefather Adam (see **Romans 5:12-19**) and was a part of you from the moment you were conceived. Therefore, Paul is saying that when you accepted Christ, you experienced a once-and-for-all death to the principle of sin (your sinful nature) within you. There are two ways to think about sin. First, there is this principle of sin (law of sin), which is the cause of any and all of the particular sins you commit. Now the Lord’s plan of salvation for you not only forgives you for all of the particular sins you have committed or will commit in the future (**Psalms 103:12**), but it also removes this principle of sin from within you and re-creates you with the principle of holiness. From the point of salvation on, this principle of holiness is the essence of your life, and it works its way from within to without in every aspect of your existence.

You could compare this law of sin to the law of gravity. The law of gravity is a principle, which always works the same way. The power of gravity in nature always pulls anything down that tries to go up. The law of sin in your old nature works the same way every time. The power of sin always pulls lost people down as their nature acts itself out. **Ephesians 2:3** (KJV) states,

“Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.” All people were sinners (sinful) by birth and by choice and therefore opposed to God until the point of their reconciliation. But praise the Lord—at the very point of our reconciliation, the Lord did such a wonderful thing in causing you to be born again into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead (**1 Peter 1:3**).

Another crucial point here is that this verb is in the active voice, showing that the subject of the phrase “we” produced the action “died.” How did you cause your own death to sin? You believed in the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation (your forgiveness and right standing before God). **John 3:18 (KJV)** says, “He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.” Therefore, the very moment that you really believed in Christ, you experienced a death to sin. Through believing, you initiated your own death to the principle of sin within you. Now God gets all the credit for this, because it is only through the work of the Holy Spirit that you were enabled to believe (see **John 6:63-65**).

Prayer: Heavenly Father, I rejoice to know that because I died to sin, I no longer have to live in it. In Jesus’s name I pray. Amen!

Date

Signature