

## Eternal Life is God's GIFT ~ Romans 6:19-23

→ **Scripture Reading** Romans 6:20-23

### INTRODUCTION

**Romans 6:2** (NIV) ...We DIED to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

We DIED to sin is not a reference to the believer's ongoing daily struggle with sin, but to a ONE-TIME event completed in the past. MacArthur

**Romans 6:11** (NIV) ...COUNT yourselves DEAD to sin but ALIVE to God IN Christ Jesus.

**Romans 6:16** (NIV) Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to OBEY him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey...

### The PAYMENT for Sin is DEATH ~ Romans 6:19-23

<sup>19</sup> I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness. <sup>20</sup>When you were SLAVES to sin, you were FREE from the control of righteousness. <sup>21</sup>What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death!

It is a desperate condition to be BOUND by every Evil and FREE from every Good. MacDonald

<sup>22</sup> But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.

We have been called to a PROFOUND OBEDIENCE and have Received the glorious benefits that are ours as His slaves. Hughes

<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life IN Christ Jesus our Lord.

You are FREE to choose between TWO MASTERS, but you are NOT free to adjust the Consequences of your choice. Each of the two masters pays with his own kind of currency. The currency of sin is eternal death. LAB

Two **Masters**: Sin -OR- God.

Two **Methods**: Wages -OR- FREE gift

Two **Final Outcomes**: Death -OR- Eternal life

### IMPLICATIONS

→ **As Believers in Christ we are NOT Obligated to sin**

<sup>22</sup> But now that you have been set FREE from sin and have become slaves to God...

A Christian is not someone who cannot sin but someone who is no longer a slave to sin. LABN

**Romans 6:2** (NIV) ...We DIED to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

**Romans 6:16** (NIV) Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to OBEY him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey...

## → CONFORMING to the Character of Jesus Christ is a Daily Struggle

<sup>22</sup> ...and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness...

**Matthew 11:28** (NIV) Take MY yoke upon you and learn from ME, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find REST for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

**Matthew 20:28** (NIV) ...the Son of Man did NOT come to BE served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom...

## TAKE AWAY ??

<sup>23</sup> For the WAGES of sin is death, but the FREE GIFT of God is eternal Life IN Christ Jesus our Lord. (ESV)

Wages - are a fixed regular payment made by an employer to an employee

- Sin promises LIFE but delivers DEATH instead
- Wages are not paid in a lump sum
- Wages are what is OWED to an Employee

Eternal Life is found IN a Person, and that Person IS Christ Jesus our Lord. All who are IN Christ HAVE eternal life. It's as simple as that! MacDonald

<sup>23</sup> ...the FREE GIFT of God is eternal Life IN Christ Jesus our Lord

**Titus 3:3-5** (NLT) Once we, too, were foolish and disobedient. We were misled and became **slaves to many lusts and pleasures**. Our lives were **full of evil and envy**, and we hated each other. <sup>4</sup> But - When God our Savior revealed His kindness and love, <sup>5</sup> **He SAVED us**, NOT because of the righteous things we had done, but **because of His mercy**. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit.

