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**The Position of Victory!**

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**Romans 6:12-18** <sup>12</sup>Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its desires. <sup>13</sup>Do not present the parts of your body to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and present the parts of your body to Him as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace. <sup>15</sup>What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law, but under grace? Certainly not! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that when you offer yourselves as obedient slaves, you are slaves to the one you obey, whether you are slaves to sin leading to death, or to obedience leading to righteousness? <sup>17</sup>But thanks be to God that, though you once were slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were committed. <sup>18</sup>You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. (BSB)

**I. Here are the details of this passage?**

**A.** Repeated **disobedience** will create habits of **sin** that are hard to break.

V. 12

**B.** Repeated **obedience** will create habits of **righteousness**. V. 13

**C.** Paul begins the use of a human institution of slavery to illustrate the **relationship** of giving in to sin or to offering your body up to righteousness. V. 14-18 A better illustration for us is our current employer-employee system.

**D.** We must serve God by **refusing** to let our sinful nature call the shots.

V. 16

**E.** We must **reprogram** our mind to think as God would have us think and act as He would have us act. V. 17

**Romans 12:1-2** Therefore I urge you, brothers, on account of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God. (BSB)

**F.** We must examine areas of weakness in our behavior and seek **liberation** from the bondage that our old flesh has in these areas. V. 18

**II. How can we apply this passage to our life?**

**A.** We must **renounce** our old ways and **embrace** the new life that God wants us to walk in.

- B.** We must discover areas in which there is a **stronghold** and seek God's deliverance in these areas. Many times strongholds begin as areas of unforgiveness, guilt, and shame. This may involve pastoral care or even professional counselling.
- C.** Memorizing **Scripture** is the beginning for removing strongholds.
- D.** Allowing the **Holy Spirit** to sanctify us from the inside is the next step.
- E.** We cannot just end sinful practices. We must **replace** them. This is the biblical practice of putting off and putting on.
- F.** Grace is where we **run** when we make mistakes. His grace has us covered. We are working from a place of victory!