

Series: Seeing **how** Jesus is your salvation will stir your love for him.

LIVE OUT YOUR BAPTISM:

In Christ you live on resurrection ground, dead to sin and alive to God!

**ONE: In Christ you won't continue under sin, for you've moved out of the land of sin** (and the law that condemns it).

**Romans 5** <sup>17</sup> For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

**Romans 6** <sup>2</sup> By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. ...<sup>14</sup> For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

**Colossians 1** <sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**Baptism:** Adam was sent out from the garden of grace and life (Gen 3.24; Rom 1.18ff.); Noah's ark delivered his family as the waters destroyed the land of sin and violence (Gen 6-8), but our rebellion corrupted the land again. From the violence and slavery of Egypt Moses led the people safely through waters of death, to walk again in God's presence (1Co 10.2). John's baptizing (Mat 3.11) marked a people who were fleeing the wrath to come (Rom 1.18ff, esp. 1.32). Only Jesus' baptizing can take you safely through death into newness of life (Rom 6.4).

**TWO: Present your bodies to God, for you are already alive and stand on resurrection ground.**

**Romans 6** <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. <sup>12</sup> Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. <sup>13</sup> Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

*Your old person/body can still be ruled by its passions, but your new self will not present these members as tools unto sin.*

*Believers live in certainty between regeneration & resurrection.*

**CONCLUSION: Celebrate your baptism: eat and drink both the death and the life of Jesus' body.** (Joh 6.48-58)

John 6 <sup>56</sup> Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.

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1. Romans 6.1-14 makes it clear that though it is possible for born again believers to present their bodies (6.13) to acts of sin, it is now unnatural (to our new self in Christ), illogical, and inappropriate. What new realities can you meditate on from these verses to help you see who you really are?
2. Paul tells us we live between the time of Christ's death and resurrection for us (Rom. 6.3-8) and the time of our getting our resurrection bodies (Rom 8.23). Should we expect to struggle with sin between new birth & resurrection?
3. Many classic Christian "spiritual" writings warn against seeking victory through personal spiritual experiences. Rather they urge us to live out our baptism, our true identity in Christ [in which believers are made to share in Christ's dying and a share in his resurrection life (Rom. 6 and 8)]. How in 6.11 is Paul telling you to think about yourself and your walk?
4. According to Christ's apostle (see Rom. 8.13) when you get up each day should you focus first on not giving your mind and body to sin or first on giving your mind and body to God? [How does knowing you are already full citizens in God's land of grace and resurrection help you?]