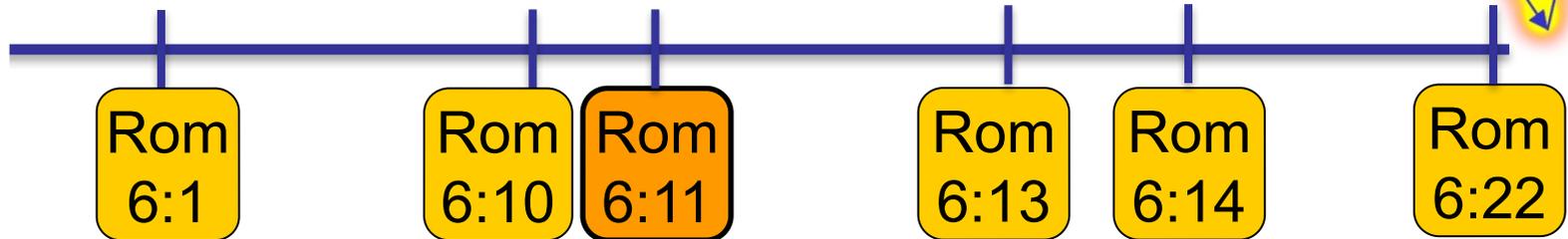




Romans Chapter 6 Overview



The Mechanics
of the
Believer's
Christian Life

- God's inner workings in a believer's life
- Christ is the sinner's substitute and He also has separated us from our sin nature and given us His very life



Positional Truths

Identification Truths

Application of the Truths

We are now under Grace

Rom 1:1

Rom 6:1

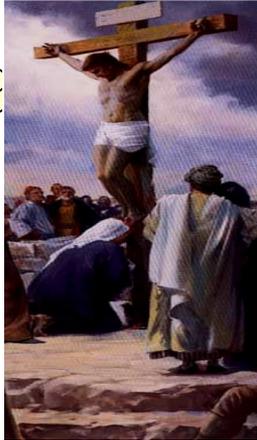
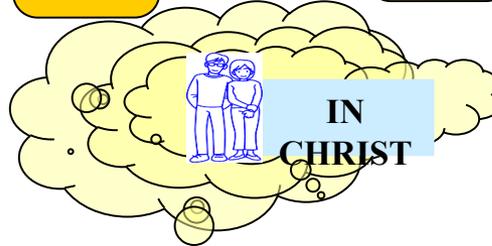
Rom 6:10

Rom 6:11

Rom 6:13

Rom 6:14

Rom 6:22



- Free from the law
- Redeemed by Christ's blood
- Peace with God
- Access and standing in His grace
- God's love gushed out in our hearts
- Holy Spirit given to us (indwelling)
- Super-abounding grace when sin abounds

Hal Molloy

- Being identified with Christ, in His death, burial and resurrection
- Our body of sin is taken offline
- We are free from our sin nature

- **Reckoning** yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus [Christ's life]

- **Stop letting** sin reign in your mortal body
- **Stop putting your members at the disposal of** the sinful nature

- For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace. (v:14 & v:15)

- Only grace can control the sin nature!
- For **the grace of God** has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, **instructing us** to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age.

Overview of Rom 6:17 to 22*

V:17 and 18 describe a transformation under grace of **the believer's relationships**

V:19 and 20 describe a transformation under grace of **the believer's conduct**

V:21 and 22 describe a transformation under grace of **the believer's benefits** [lit: fruit]

The believer's transformation that has taken place based on the principle **“you are slaves of the one whom you obey”** in Rom 6:16.



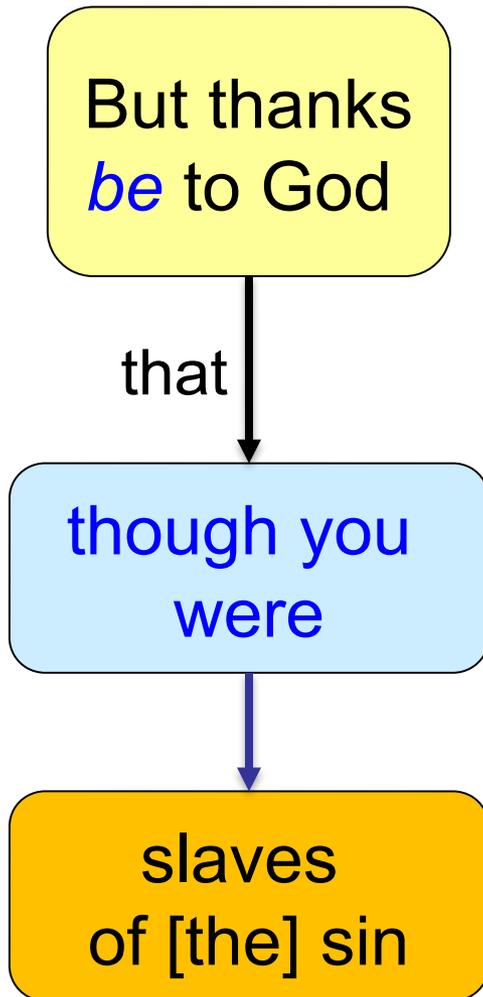
Rom 6:17 - 18* Message



- Last time we talked about the **first** of these three transformations
- Verses 17 and 18 describe the believer's relationship to his sin nature vs his relationship to God's righteousness
- The idea is “**what we once were**” vs. “**what we are now**”
- So, you were slaves of sin vs. you became slaves of righteousness
- Notice this is based on positional truths from Rom 6:3-10

* adapted from McCalley

17 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed,



- Paul used this term many times of God's grace
- 2 Cor 2:14a But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ
- *though you were* - *eimi* - continuous action in the past time
- *slaves* - *doulos* - one who gives himself up to the will of another – Vine
- *doulos* identifies who the believer was in past time
- *you had no choice as an unbeliever*

17b but you obeyed from the heart, the form of teaching
into which you were delivered

Merryman



“you
obeyed”
from the heart

the form of
teaching

into which
“you were
delivered”

- you obeyed:
hypakouō - lit: to listen under
- this was an event in your life
- it was from [ek-out of] the heart
- with the heart a person believes*
- form of teaching or body of truth
- idea: you were delivered over to
this body of truth [passive voice]**
God did it!
- Eph 2:8 For by grace you have
been saved through faith - it is
the gift of God.

* Rom 10:10a

** Merryman

17b but you obeyed from the heart, the form of teaching
into which you were delivered

Merryman



Observations from Merryman:

- Every believer has been delivered over into **the body of truth**
- We did not have **a body of truth** that we could live up to
- This is the difference between law and grace
- Under Law Israel had **a body of truth** [Law of Moses] that was delivered to them externally that they could not live up to
- We as believers have not been given **a body of truth** that we cannot live up to
- This **body of truth** is the doctrine of grace [all of the grace truths of the New Testament]
- John 1:17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.



having been freed from [the] sin

- You were freed from the sin when you were delivered into the body of truth

Merryman

What is freedom?*

- Freedom is not doing as I please
- Freedom is a change of masters
- Freedom is being freed from the mastery of my sin nature

you became slaves of righteousness

- We are enslaved to the kind of righteousness that pleases God
- The idea of servanthood of the believer has two aspects: freedom and slavery*

Merryman

Today's Verses



¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented **your members** as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in *further* lawlessness, **so now** present **your members** as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification.

²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

- This is what living “under grace” looks like
- God’s grace is **instructing us** in these verses

Present Your Members as Slaves!

What are
your
members?

melos –

- members of the body including the mind
 - members of the body as the seat of the desires and passions
- Zodhiates



- Eyes
- Ears
- Mouth
- Hands
- Feet
- Mind

Rom 6:19 - 20* Message



- The **second** of these three transformations is given next
- In verses 19 and 20 Paul tells us about the believer's **transformation of conduct**
- The idea is “**what you did once**” vs. “**what you do now**”
- slaves to impurity etc. vs. slaves to righteousness
- **So, pre-salvation and post-salvation have similarities** (they both involve slavery and freedom!)

19a I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh.



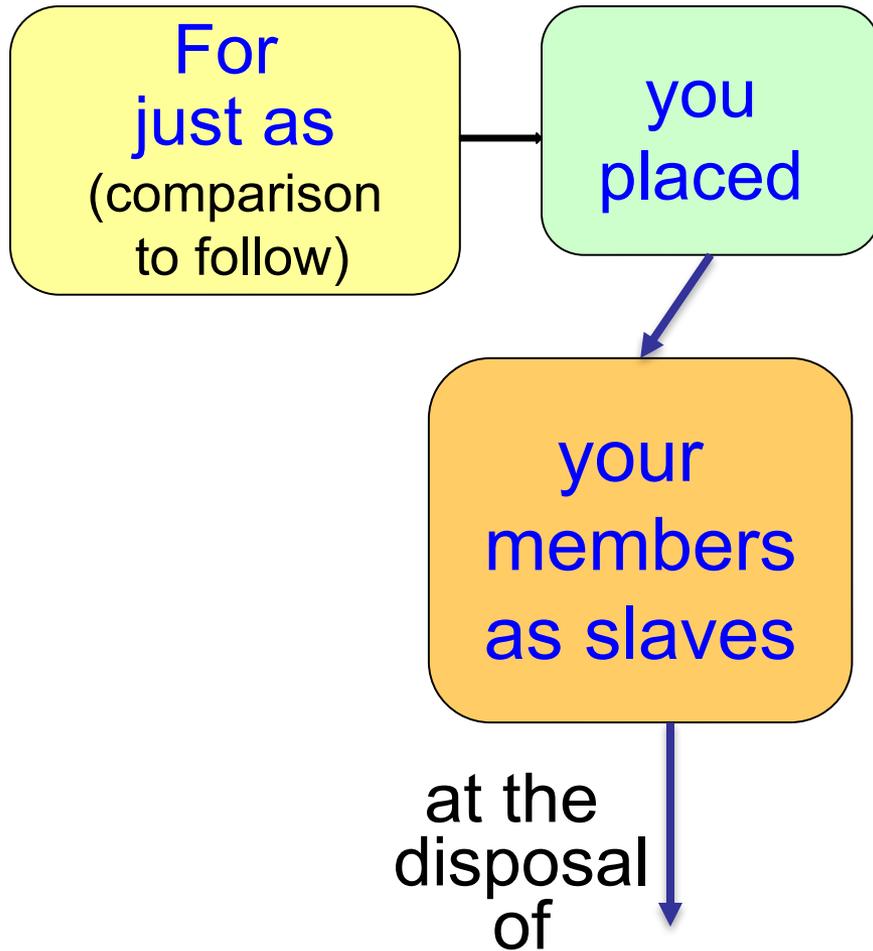
I am speaking
in human terms

because
of

the weakness
of your flesh.

- I am using an illustration drawn from human affairs Wuest
- **because of** – the reason for this is
- **weakness** - general inability, frailties – usually moral weakness
- **of the flesh** – the sin nature
- The questions of Rom 6:1 and Rom 6:15 show a weakness of man's sin nature:
- Are **we to continue in sin** so that grace may increase? 6:1
- **Shall we sin** because we are not under law but under grace? 6:15₃

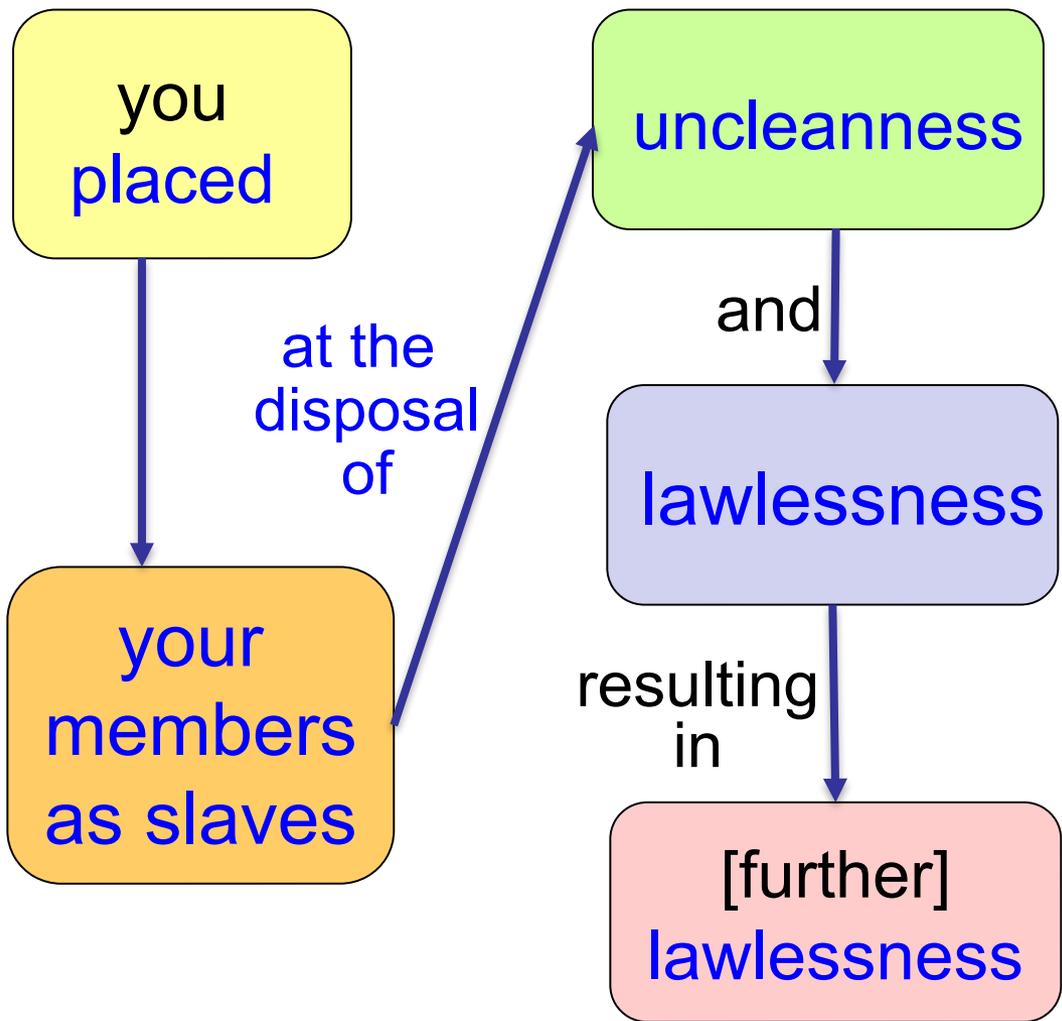
19b For just as you placed your members as slaves at the disposal of uncleanness and lawlessness resulting in lawlessness, Wuest



- placed – *paristánō* - to place or set before someone
- you willingly placed your eyes, ears, mouth and mind at the disposal of “what follows” over and over again
- slaves – *doulos* - the nature of a slave is to serve the master to whom he is bound
- before salvation you had no choice but only to serve your sin nature

19b For just as you placed your members as slaves at the disposal of uncleanness and lawlessness resulting in lawlessness,

Wuest



- **uncleanness** - *akatharsia*
- moral impurity, lewdness unrestrained
- the **deeds of the flesh** are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality ---
- **lawlessness** – *anomia* - in the NT it means not the absence of the Law, but the violation of Law
- 1 John 3:4 Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and **sin is lawlessness.**

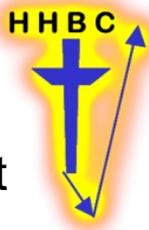


slaves of uncleanness and lawlessness

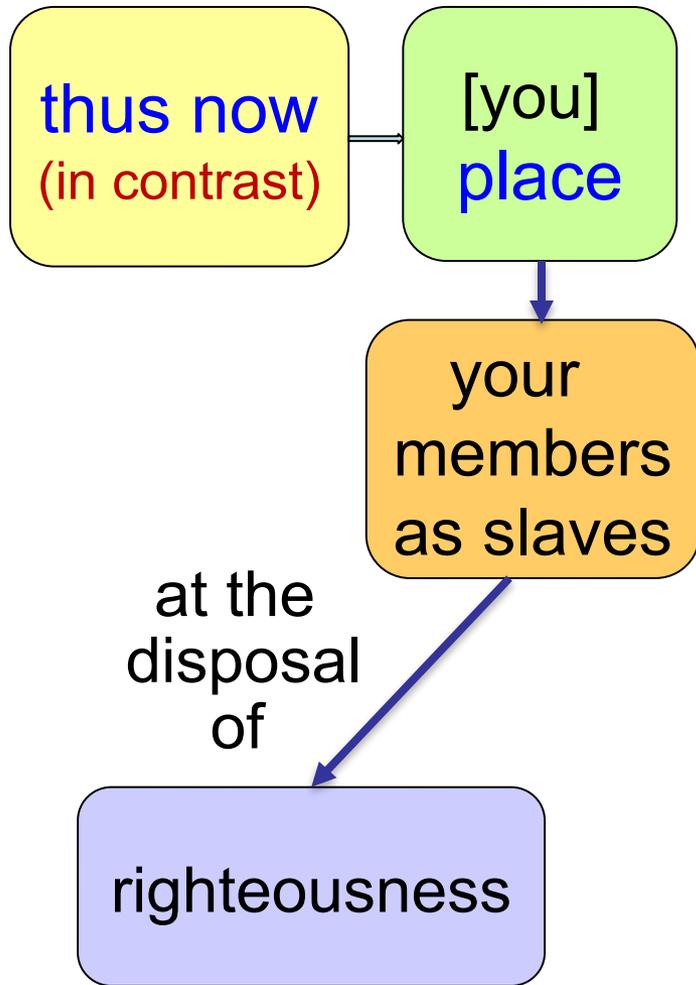
- The word spoke of **the slave** as one whose will is **swallowed up** in the will of his master.*
- Again, the word referred to **a slave** who is devoted to the interests of his master to the extent that he disregards his own interests.*
- Ephesians 2:3 --- we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.
- What are we to learn from being slaves to our sin nature before salvation?

* Wuest

19c thus now place your members as slaves at the disposal of righteousness resulting in sanctification



Wuest

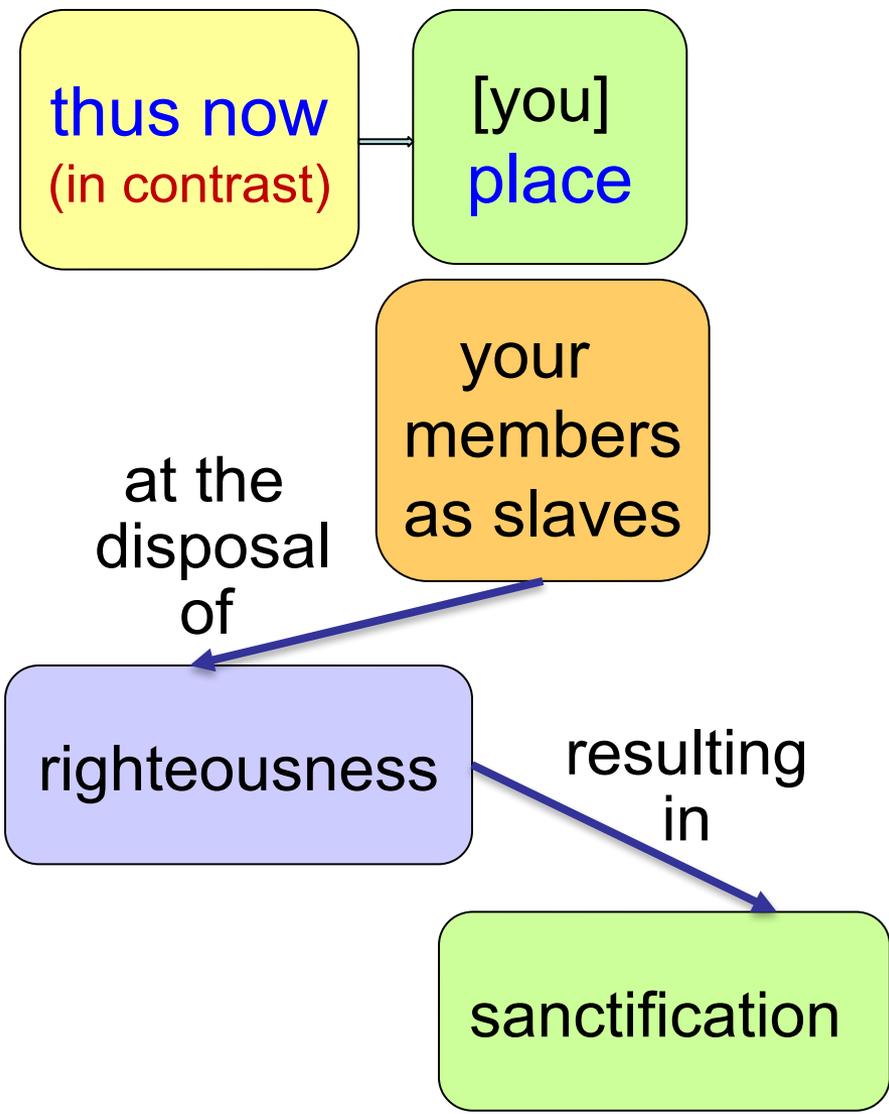


- **place** - *paristánō* - to place or set before someone
- you willingly placed your eyes, ears, mouth and mind **at the disposal of** what follows over and over again
- **righteousness** – this is an attribute of God
- [I urge you] **to present** your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. Rom 12:1

19c thus now place your members as slaves at the disposal of righteousness resulting in sanctification



Wuest



resulting in sanctification

- The idea is that we are growing in grace and the knowledge of Him
- In sanctification you are being delivered from the power of the sin nature

20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.



For when – is speaking of the believer’s past life!

- We have two “**you were**” statements in this verse
- The idea is that you were continually in this state in past time [prior to salvation]

1st slaves of [the] sin

- The believer was then a *doulos* [one who is under the control of his Adamic nature] to his sin nature

2nd free in regard to righteousness.

- you were those who were [continuously] free with respect to [had no relation to] righteousness Wuest
- Isaiah 64:6b And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment.

Final Thoughts



- You are now placing your members by faith at the disposal of God over and over again
- Before, you let sin reign as king in your body and obeyed its lust resulting in more lust
- Now we are “beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory.” 2 Cor 3:18
- As a unbeliever you went from one depth of sin to another depth of sin
- Now we go from one state of glory to another state of glory