

# Romans – The Crown Jewel of Salvation

## 23 – *There Is A Better Master*

### Romans 6:23

Grace Fellowship Church / Ryan Fultz / February 16, 2014

**Romans 6:23** “For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord”

#### I. When sin is your master, death is your possession that you have rightfully earned! v. 23a

##### Master – Sin

“For the wages of **sin** is death.”

**Romans 5:18** - “Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men...” *ESV*

**Ephesians 2:3** - “And you were dead in the trespasses and sins **2** in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—**3** among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.” *ESV*

Sin is not only our Master...but our enemy. Enslavement to sin not only destroys us in this life, but brings death to those enslaved by it.

##### Possession – Death

“For the wages of sin is **death**”

**Romans 3:19** - “...so that every mouth may be stopped, and the **whole world** may be held **accountable** to God.” *ESV*

**Mark 9:43-47** - “And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. **45** And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell.**47** And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell,” *ESV*

Wayne Grudem defines hell as “a place of eternal conscious punishment for the wicked.” (Wayne Grudem Systematic Theology, p 1148)

**Revelation 20:11-15** - “Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. **12** And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. **13** And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done.**14** Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. **15** **And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.**” *ESV*

## **Means – Rightfully Earned (Wages)**

“For the **wages** of sin is death”

**Romans 3:10** - “None is righteous, **no, not one**” *ESV*

**Romans 3:23** - “for **all** have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” *ESV*

When sin is your master, death is your possession that you have rightfully earned!

## **II. When God is your master, eternal life is your possession that you have been freely given in Christ! v. 23b**

### **Master – God**

“but the free gift of **God** is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**Romans 6:22** – “But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of **God**” *ESV*

### **Possession – Eternal Life**

“but the free gift of God is **eternal life** in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**John 3:16** - “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have **eternal life**.” *ESV*

### **Means – Freely given in Christ (Gift)**

“but the **free gift** of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**Ephesians 2:8-9** - “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the **gift** of God, **9** not a result of works, so that **no one may boast**.” *ESV*

**John 17:1-3** - “When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, **2** since you have **given him authority** over all flesh, to **give** eternal life to all whom you have given him. **3** And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and **Jesus Christ** whom you have sent.” *ESV*

There truly are 2 different masters, offering 2 different possessions, by 2 very different means.

When sin is your master, death is your possession that you have rightfully earned!

When God is your master, eternal life is your possession that you have been freely given in Christ!

**Matthew 11:28-30** - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest**. **29** Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will **find rest for your souls**. **30** For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” *ESV*

Repent. Submit your life to a new master. God is offering you the free gift of salvation and eternal life through His son Jesus Christ.