

ROMANS

SEEING WHAT IS RIGHT • THROUGH GOD'S EYES

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15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! 16 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—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?

Romans 6:15–16 (NIV84)



Who do you serve?



Quick Review

Romans Series: “Seeing what is Right Through God’s eyes”

❖ **Module 1 – “Condemned” *God’s Righteous Judgement Ch. 1-3***

❖ **Module 2 – “Credited” *Righteousness through Faith Ch. 3:21- 5:21***

Now in Module 3

❖ **Module 3 – “Righteous” Living Righteously through Christ 6:1-8:39**



Quick Review

Module 3 – “Resurrected” Living Righteously through Christ 6:1-8:39

Paul is addressing his accusers:

And some people even slander us by claiming that we say, “The more we sin, the better it is!” Those who say such things deserve to be condemned. Romans 3:8 (NLT)

Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? Romans 6:1 (NLT)

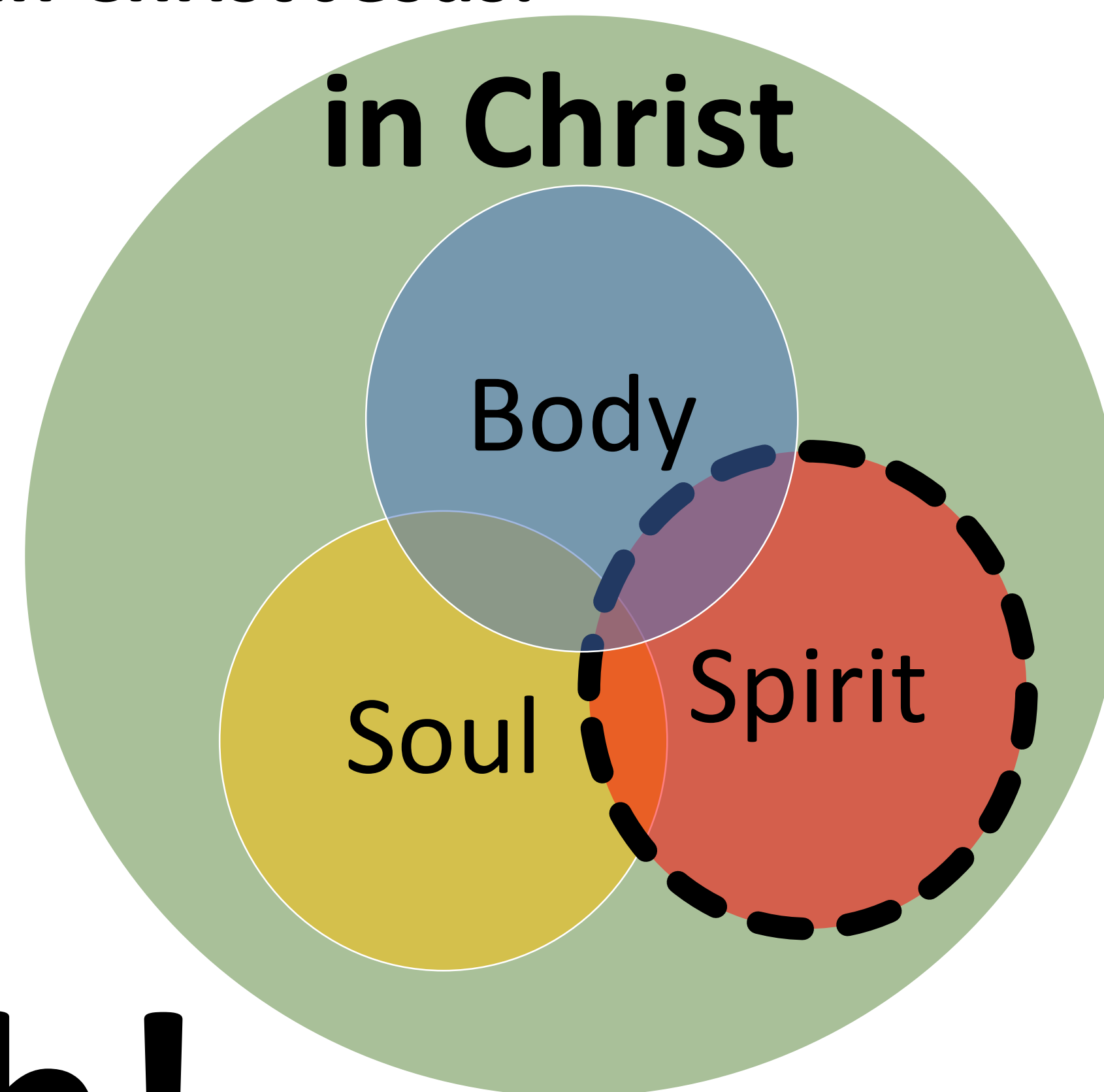
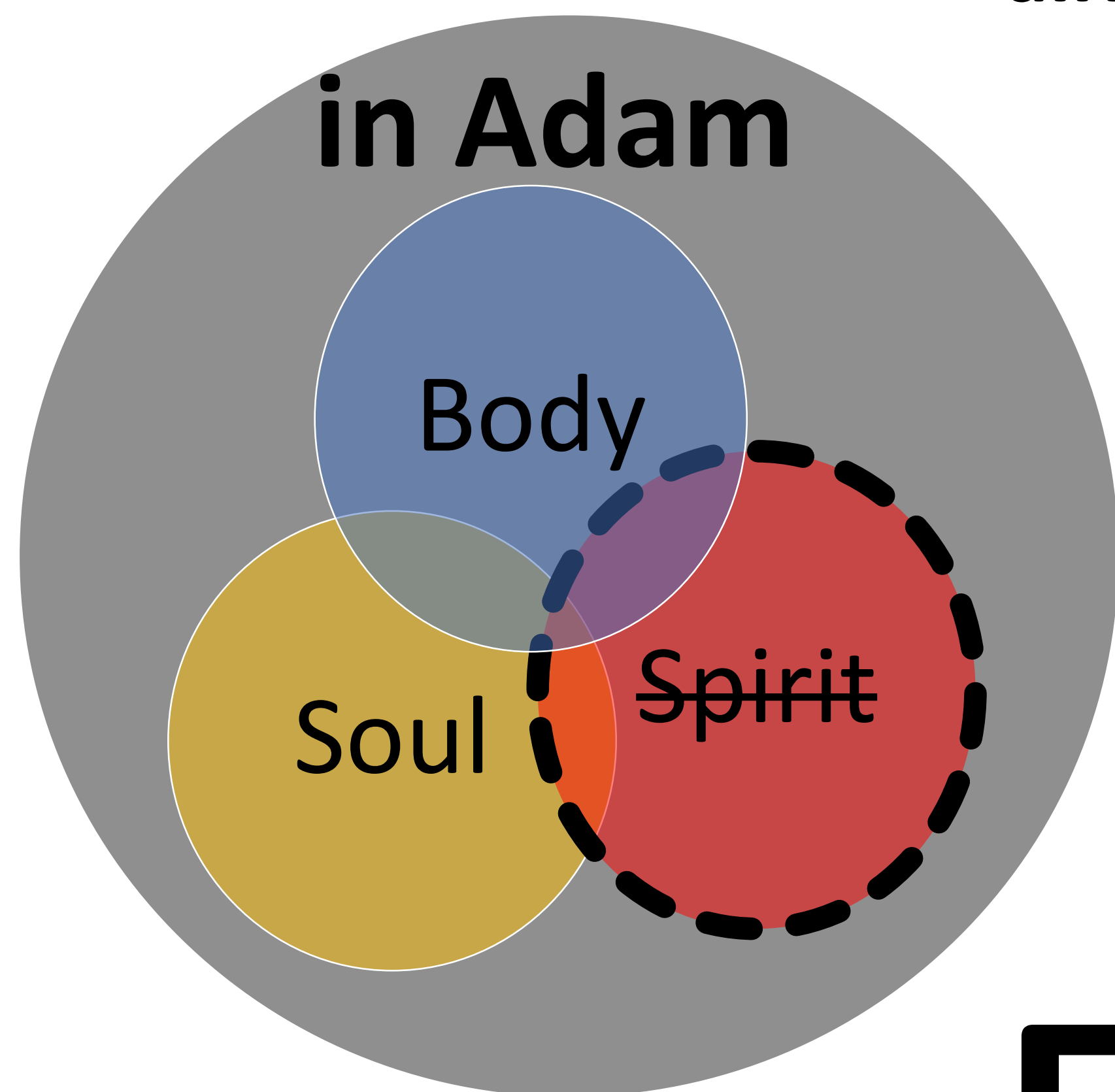
Well then, since God’s grace has set us free from the law, does that mean we can go on sinning? Of course not! Romans 6:15 (NLT)



6:1-14 Baptised into Christ

Romans 6:11 (ESV)

11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.



Faith!

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Freedom: Doing as He Pleases!
Romans 6:15-23



5 Points - All related

1. Freedom to do just as I please (autonomy)
is a myth! v 15-16



1. Freedom (autonomy) is a myth! v 15-16

- V 6 slave to sin
- v 12 sin reigns
- V 14 sin is your master
- V 16 you offer yourself as a slave
- V 22 freed from sin enslaved to God

Cultural - Slavery = employment (often servants for pay)

“I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves.”
Romans 6:19 (NIV84)

“Because of the weakness of your human nature, I am using the illustration of slavery to help you understand all this.”
Romans 6:19 (NLT)



1. Freedom (autonomy) is a myth! v 15-16

“The man who imagines he is free, because he acknowledges no god but his own ego, is deluded; for the service of one’s own ego is the very essence of the slavery of sin’ (Cranfield,)

- Pornography
- Anger
- Bitterness
- Self medication- Alcohol, drugs, smoking
- Sexual promiscuity etc. etc.



1. Freedom (autonomy) is a myth! v 15-16





5 Points - All related

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1. Freedom (autonomy) is a myth! v 15-16
2. Forgiveness is a choice v 17



2. Forgiveness is a choice v 17

“But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.” *Romans 6:17 (NKJV)*

- Very clear – active voice – you choose
- Shortly – Passive – what is done to you



1. Freedom (autonomy) is a myth! v 15-16
2. Forgiveness is a choice v 17
3. Freedom to serve God is a gift! V 18



3. Freedom to serve God is a gift! V 18

- Paul is clear - passive what is done to me by God!

“For we know that our old self was crucified with him... so we would no longer be slaves to sin” Romans 6:6 (NIV84)

You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. Romans 6:18 (NIV84)

²² 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. Romans 6:22 (NIV84)

3. Freedom to serve God is a gift! V 18





1. Freedom (autonomy) is a myth! v 15-16
2. Forgiveness is a choice v 17
3. Freedom to serve God is a gift! V 18
4. Offering obedience to God is a choice v19



4. Offering obedience to God is a choice v19

- Paul is clear – a command – imperative

“... Now you must give yourselves to be slaves to righteous living so that you will become holy.” Romans 6:19 (NLT)



1. Freedom (autonomy) is a myth! v 15-16
2. Forgiveness is a choice v 17
3. Freedom to serve God is a gift! V 18
4. Offering obedience to God is a choice v19

Because of point 2 – a response of faith by us - God does point 3 – God crucified my old self , God set me free, God made me his servant! Now I can complete point 4! **Glory to Him!**



4. Offering obedience to God is a choice v19

- Paul is clear – a command – imperative

“... Now you must give yourselves to be slaves to righteous living so that you will become holy.” Romans 6:19 (NLT)



1. Freedom (autonomy) is a myth! v 15-16
2. Forgiveness is a choice v 17
3. Freedom to serve God is a gift! V 18
4. Offering obedience to God is a choice v19
5. Fruit - a result of my response (not self effort)v 21-22



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- Paul is clear –my choice to yield - leads to a good result or a bad result . The harvest depends on where I offer myself

A slave to sin

- *death v 16*
- *further lawlessness v 19*
- *Shame, death v 21-22*
- *The wage- death v 23*

A slave to obedience

- *righteousness v 16*
- *sanctification (holiness) v 19*
- *sanctification , eternal life v 21-22*
- *the gift of eternal life v 23*



5. Fruit - a result of my response (not self effort) v 21-22

- Paul is clear –my choice to yield leads to a good result or a bad result . The harvest depends on where I offer myself

An issue of the heart – not legalism, laws , self effort!

**“But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin,
yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to
which you were delivered.” Romans 6:17 (NKJV)**

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Who do you serve?

“Freedom is not a question of whether or not we would like to serve but the choice of which master we will serve.” Mounce, R. H.

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