

# Romans 6:15–23

What they WERE

What they DID

What they BECAME

# What they WERE

## ◦ Servants (slaves) of sin

- 6:17, 19–20.
- Paul's mission: to turn people "from **darkness** to light, and from the **power of Satan** to God" (Acts 26:18).
- Without Christ, without God, in a hopeless condition (Eph. 2:12).

# What they WERE

- o People living **fruitless** lives.
  - 6:21.
  - “What things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ...indeed I count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ...count them as rubbish” (Philippians 3:7–8).



# What they WERE

## ◦ Spiritually dead.

- 6:21, 23.
- “And you...were dead in trespasses and sins”  
(Eph. 2:1)..

# What they DID

- First, they **learned** something.
  - 6:17 (“that form of doctrine to which you were delivered”).
  - They couldn’t **obey** what they didn’t **know**.
  - What they heard and learned, of course, was the gospel. 1:16.
  - Just like the many we read about in Acts.

# What they DID

o They **obeyed** the gospel.

- 6:17.
- They expressed their faith by repenting of their sins, confessing their faith in Jesus, and being buried with Christ in baptism (6:4).



# What they DID

o They obeyed from the heart.

- 6:17.
- Implies understanding, sincerity, fervor.

# What they BECAME

- Saved, or “set free from sin” (6:18).
  - Remember, they HAD to obey to be set free (6:17–18).
  - “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32).
  - “If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed” (John 8:36).



# What they BECAME

- o No longer slaves of sin, but slaves of righteousness.
  - 6:4, 6–7, 11, 13, 18.

# What they BECAME

- No longer dead **in** sin, but “dead **to** sin,” and “alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (6:11).
  - 6:13.

# What they BECAME

o No longer living fruitLESS lives, but fruitFUL.

- 6:19, 22–23.
- “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me” (John 15:4).