

The last couple of weeks, we have studied chapter 5 of the book of Romans. We were assured by Paul, that our new relationship with God has the result of being saved from God's wrath in the judgement to come. Since we are in Christ, we have the confidence of the eternal life Christ has secured for us.

What does this mean for us today? Are we in a state of limbo simply waiting for the day of final salvation?

As we will see tonight, Christ has not only set us free from not only the penalty of sin, but also from the power of sin. As Douglas Moo rightly states, "God gives us hope for the future, but he also wants to transform the way we live until we attain that hope."<sup>1</sup>

Let us now read a question answer format Paul uses in this letter in Chapter 6:1-14.

1. How would you describe what Paul has written in this passage? (Verse 1)
2. What do you think Paul means "we died to sin" in verse 2?
3. What are the two reasons Paul provided as an answer in verse 4 following the next question he raised in verse 3?
4. There is a very specific word Paul uses twice in verse 5. Can you guess what it is? How does Paul further explain this in verse 6?
5. In these first 6 verses, Paul uses the word baptism in a very specific way. How does he do that and why?
6. What does this mean for the new believer in Jesus Christ?

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<sup>1</sup> Douglas J. Moo "The NIV Application Commentary" Zondervan Publishing (page 195) 2000

7. Here at Tahmoor Baptist Church we practice full immersion baptism. What is the significance here of these verses?
  
8. How would you discuss the need to be baptised to a new believer?
  
9. What are the results of dying with Christ? (Verse 6-7)
  
10. What are the results of being raised with Christ? (8-10)
  
11. Read verses 11-14 again and consider how we put our new status into action.
  
12. Does infant baptism have any value? What are some alternative views on this? Is there a way that infants are recognised as part of the church?
  
13. Let us discuss a reflection on these verses. In dying to sin, we have a new position with respect to sin, It no longer rules over us and dictates our conduct. Our 'old self', in other words, has been crucified, our Adamic nature has been decisively and irreversibly ended. Our position has changed and now we have the ability to grow in the experience of our new identity and nature.
  
14. What would be some good things to give thanks to God for after reading this passage tonight? Maybe we could write a short statement or a reflective prayer.