



The Power of the Gospel Over the Power of Sin

Romans 1:16

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- “For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”
- The Gospel’s greatest power is seen in its effective operation against sin.
 - The Gospel has the power to remove every sin from the sinner.
 - The Gospel has the power to keep the saved from sin.

Romans 1:16

- The Gospel requires that the sinner and the saved effectively operate it.
 - It has no power to remove sin from sinners if they do not deploy the Gospel against sin.
 - It has no power to keep Christians from falling back into sin if they do not use the Gospel against temptation.

The Power Of Sin

- The hopeless condition of one outside of Christ under the power of sin
 - Rom. 7:14-15, 18-25
- The ineffectiveness of Law of Moses in dealing with sin's power
 - Rom. 7:7-11, 8:1-3

The Power Of Sin

- Note the person under the power of sin:
 - Is "sold under sin" - Rom. 7:14
 - Having "sin that dwells in me" - 7:17, 20
 - In "captivity to the law of sin which is in my members" - 7:23
 - "Wretched man that I am" - 7:24
 - In a "body of death" - 7:24

Sin Has Power Over Everyone

■ All have sinned

- Rom. 3:23 - “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”

■ Including Christians

- 1John 1:8-10 - “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.”

Sin Has Power Over Everyone

- 1Peter 2:11 - “Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul”
- James 1:13-15 - “Let no one say when he is tempted, I am tempted by God; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death”
- John 8:34 - “Jesus answered them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.’”

The Promise Of The Gift Of Power

- Acts 2:37-41 - “Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, ‘Men and brethren, what shall we do? 38 Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.’ 40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, ‘Be saved from this perverse generation.’ 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.”

The Promise Of The Gift Of Power

- To those who believe in Jesus
 - John 7:38-39 - “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”

The Promise Of The Gift Of Power

■ To those who obey God

- Acts 5:27-33 - “And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them, 28 saying, ‘Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!’ 29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: We ought to obey God rather than men. 30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. 31 Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him”

The Promise Of The Gift Of Power

- Christians have real power to deal with sin and temptation

- Eph. 1:17-20 - “That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,”

The Promise Of The Gift Of Power

- The same power that raised Jesus will raise us in the end
 - Rom. 1:4 - “and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.”
 - Rom. 8:11 - “But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.”

The Promise Of The Gift Of Power

- We are strengthened by this power
 - Eph. 3:16 - “That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man”
 - Eph. 3:20 - “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us”
 - Eph. 6:10 - “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.”

Implications Of The Gift Of Power

- This promise serves as motivation not to sin
 - Positive - We are the temple of God
 - 1Cor. 3:16-17, 6:18-20
 - Negative - When we sin, we offend God who dwells with us
 - Eph. 4:30 - “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”
 - Heb. 10:26-31

Implications Of The Gift Of Power

- This promise provides encouragement in our fight against sin
 - Phil. 2:12-13 - “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.”

Implications Of The Gift Of Power

- We have all of the power necessary to overcome sin and temptation
 - Phil. 4:13 - “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”
 - 1John 4:4 - “You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”
 - 1Cor. 10:13 - “No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”

Implications Of The Gift Of Power

- This does not mean that we become incapable of falling prey to sin
 - 1John 1:8
- This promise means we have no excuse for our sins
 - We cannot say, "I can't help myself" or "The devil made me do it"
 - If we sin, it is because we have chosen to lay aside the power of the Gospel

Implications Of The Gift Of Power

- The Gospel has the both the power to save us from our sins as well as the power to keep us from sin, if we apply the Gospel in our own lives.
- We will conclude this evening with the final point: The power of the Gospel over sin.