

# The Book of Romans

## The Gospel of God

<sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,  
<sup>13</sup> and do not present the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.  
<sup>14</sup> For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under Law but under grace.  
 (Romans 6:12-14)

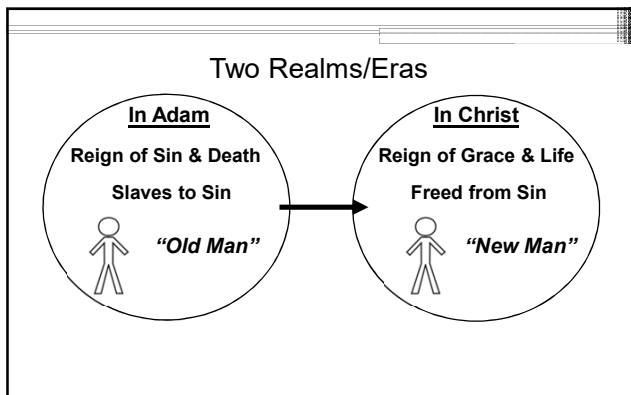
### First Imperative of Romans:

*“Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”*

### Practical Imperatives

➤ What Paul does NOT conclude...

- that sin itself is done away with for Christians
- that our struggle/battle with sin is over



### Practical Imperatives

1. Negatively (“do not...”)

- do not let sin’s reign occupy your lives, which results in obeying your sinful passions
- do not offer your natural faculties as weapons in the service of sin

## Practical Imperatives

### 2. Positively

- in view of who you are in Christ (“alive from the dead”), offer yourselves to God
- offer your natural faculties (“members”) as weapons in service to God

## Practical Imperatives

### 3. Reality (grounds)

- sin shall never have lordship over you again
- you are not under the sin-strengthening regime of the old realm (the Law), but under the freedom-from-sin power of the new realm (grace)

## Practical Imperatives

*“Run, John , run, the Law demands; but gives me neither feet nor hands.  
A greater grace the gospel brings; it bids me fly and gives me wings.”*

(John Bunyan?)