

## The Book of Romans

### The Gospel of God

## Romans 6:23

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

<sup>20</sup> For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

<sup>21</sup> Therefore what fruit did you have then? That of which you are now ashamed. For the outcome of those things is death.

<sup>22</sup> But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you have your fruit, leading to sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.

<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 6:20-23)

## Romans 6:23

### ➤ Three Contrasts

#### 1. Two Masters: Sin or God

- Sin is a master who pays wages
- God is a master who gives gifts

## Romans 6:23

### ➤ Three Contrasts

#### 2. Two Means: Wages or Gift

- "wages" are something you earn and deserve – *according to works*
- a "gift" is something you do not and cannot earn or deserve – *according to grace*

<sup>4</sup> Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited according to grace, but according to what is due.

<sup>5</sup> But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness.

(Romans 4:4-5)

## Romans 6:23

- Three Contrasts
- 3. Two Outcomes: Death and Eternal Life
  - “death” – final and irreversible separation from God under His judgment
  - “life eternal” – sharing and enjoying the life of God in the new creation

## Romans 6:23

- One Foundation: “*in Christ Jesus our Lord*”
  - this gift of God’s grace is entirely and exclusively in and through Christ Jesus
  - the death and resurrection of Christ are the only grounds for the gift of life