

Study of Romans 6
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Romans 6:1-23

In *Romans 5*, in verses 21 & 22 Paul says, *Moreover the Torah (Law) entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, GRACE did much more abound: 21 That, as sin has reigned unto death, even so might GRACE reign through righteousness (Torah) unto eternal life by Yeshua Messiah our Lord.*

Paul is telling us that sin was running rampant throughout the house of Elohim, because they had been **ADDING TO** and **TAKING THINGS AWAY FROM** the Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, and now with the advent of the death, resurrection and ascension of Messiah, things are changed. Messiah **IS** the Living Torah, and as we have learned, *Torah and Grace* are synonymous terms and therefore they were both there at the beginning of time. The inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, His Torah of Life, **WHEN** obeyed with surrendered contrite obedient hearts, **GIVES US LIFE**, joy, happiness, health, prosperity, provision and protection, and **ALL OF IT IS DONE BY** Elohim's **GRACE**. Salvation **IS A GIFT of Elohim**, because He knows that **ALL** have sinned and fallen short of the glory of Elohim (*Romans 3:23*), and that the wages of sin is death, (*Romans 6:23*), and our heavenly Father has quite clearly stated throughout Scripture that **IT IS** His wish that **NOT** even one person perish, but that they turn from their wicked ways and **LIVE**. YHVH wants **ALL** of us to understand that surrendered loving obedience to His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life **BRINGS ON HIS BLESSINGS**, and **DISOBEDIENCE BRINGS ON** His prescribed **CURSES**, and the **CURSES** are what keep people in bondage, whereas obedience to the Torah, the Law, the Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, **HIS ETERNAL TRUTH, SETS US FREE**, and that **IS** why we are told in Scripture, that when we **KNOW** and **DO** YHVH's **TRUTH**, His Torah, when we willingly **SUBMIT TO and OBEY YHVH's TORAH**, when we willingly and lovingly **SUBMIT TO HIS TRUTH** (the Torah, *Psalm 119:142*), then **THAT ACT OF SUBMITTING TO THE TRUTH WILL INDEED SET US FREE**.

Psalm 25:10 ALL THE PATHS of YHVH are mercy and TRUTH unto such as CHOOSE to WILLINGLY and LOVINGLY KEEP His Covenant and His Testimonies.

Psalm 33:4 For the Word of YHVH IS RIGHT; and ALL His Works are done in TRUTH.

Psalm 119:30 I have chosen the way of TRUTH: Your judgments have I laid before me.

Psalm 119: 142 Your righteousness IS an everlasting righteousness and Your Torah (Law) is the TRUTH.

Psalm 119:43 And take NOT the Word of TRUTH (Torah) utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in Your judgments.

Psalm 119:151 You are near, O YHVH; and ALL Your Commandments are TRUTH.

Psalm 119:172 My tongue shall speak of Your Word: for ALL Your Commandments are RIGHTEOUSNESS.

John 17:17 Sanctify them through Your TRUTH: Your WORD IS TRUTH.

In *Romans 6* Paul continues on the theme of YHVH's grace and poses us a question. He says since YHVH's grace, His longsuffering patience, and His mercy abounds so much towards us **BECAUSE** of our sinful nature, **SHOULD WE NOT THEREFORE CONTINUE** and maybe even increase our **SINNING**, so that His **GRACE** will be increased even more towards us? Paul's conclusion **IS** what

we should all conclude, and **THAT IS, ELOHIM FORBID**. Why would Paul admonish us **NOT TO SIN** just so that we can see Elohim's grace being poured out? Paul's answer **IS** quite simple; he tells us that we are all servants, servants to whatever we surrender ourselves to; **IF** we surrender to our fleshly desires we become **SERVANTS OF SIN ONTO EVERLASTING DAMNATION, BUT IF INSTEAD** we willingly and lovingly choose to surrender our wills to our heavenly Father and His ways, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of life, **THEN**, we become servants of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**. That's really great **BUT** what does it mean to be a servant of Righteousness?

As I have explained before, the word **RIGHTEOUSNESS IS SYNONYMOUS** with the word **Torah**, the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of YHVH, therefore to be a servant of **RIGHTEOUSNESS IS TO BE A SERVANT OF YHVH'S TORAH**, given to Moses on Mount Sinai. *Deuteronomy 4:5-8 Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as YHVH my Elohim Commanded me, that you should do so in the land where you go to possess it. 6 Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. 7 For what nation is there so great, who hath Elohim so nigh unto them, as YHVH our Elohim is in all things that we call upon him for? 8 And what nation is there so great, that has statutes and judgments so RIGHTEOUS AS ALL THIS TORAH (Law), which I set before you this day?*

Deuteronomy 6:25 And IT SHALL be our RIGHTEOUSNESS, IF we observe to do all these Commandments before YHVH our Elohim, as He has Commanded us.

Paul continues and tells us that **IF** we do indeed willingly and lovingly surrender our wills to the Living Torah, our Messiah, that we are actually **CRUCIFIED WITH HIM**, because we are baptized in, or immersed in the same life that Messiah lived while He was here on earth, and that life, my friends, **IS A TORAH OBEDIENT LIFE**, a life totally surrendered in obedience to our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, thereby becoming the sinless spotless Lamb of Elohim, for **SIN** according to Torah and the Scriptures **IS TRANSGRESSION OF THE TORAH (LAW)** 1John 3:4. Now **IF** we are indeed crucified with Messiah, we will also be resurrected with Him onto eternal life. Listen to what Paul says, *verse 4 Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Messiah was RAISED UP FROM THE DEAD by the glory of the Father, EVEN SO WE ALSO should walk in newness of life. 5 For IF we have been planted together in the likeness of Messiah's DEATH, WE SHALL BE ALSO IN THE LIKENESS OF HIS RESURRECTION:* 6 *Knowing this, that our old man IS CRUCIFIED WITH MESSIAH, that the body OF SIN (which was in the old man) might be DESTROYED; WHAT IS DESTROYED* when we are crucified with Messiah? It is Lawlessness or Torahlessness, which is another name for our old man, **IT IS THE BODY OF SIN, OUR OLD MAN** that **IS** destroyed, and when that happens in our lives we **NO LONGER SERVE SIN**, for we then willingly and lovingly **OBEY** YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, and why do we do that? *That henceforth we should NOT SERVE SIN. 7 For he that is dead IS FREED FROM SIN.*

We know and believe that Messiah was crucified and died for our sins, and now that He is resurrected, He lives forever at the **RIGHT HAND** of the Father. Therefore it stands to reason that **IF** we are crucified with Him, and resurrected with Him, that we too **WILL HAVE ETERNAL LIFE** at His side forevermore, **BUT THAT IS ONLY IF** we choose to continue to persevere **IN LOVING SURRENDERED OBEDIENCE** to His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions,

His Torah of Life, to the end. Messiah the Living Torah **DIED FOR US**, and His death redeemed us to the Father and actually set every willing believer on the path to everlasting life.

However, we, unlike Messiah, have a problem, and that **IS** that we continue to sin after we have been baptized, crucified and resurrected with our Messiah, and therefore we have to learn to **WORK OUT OUR OWN SALVATION**, *Philippians 2:12 Wherefore, 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. HOW DO WE WORK OUT OUR OWN SALVATION?* We do that by first confessing our sins to our heavenly Father once we are made aware of them, and our heavenly Father tells us in *1John 1:9 If we confess our sins, HE IS FAITHFUL AND JUST TO FORGIVE US OUR SINS, and to CLEANSE US from ALL unrighteousness, from ALL lawlessness*, and then we are to walk in obedience to His **TRUTH**, His Torah of Life, because when **WE KNOW, AND KEEP, AND DO THE TRUTH**, when **WE KNOW, KEEP AND OBEY THE TORAH** of YHVH **IT SETS US FREE FROM THE BONDAGE OF SIN**.

Now Paul admonishes us to reckon or consider ourselves **DEAD TO SIN**. What does that mean? Well **IF YOU ARE DEAD TO SOMETHING** that means that you no longer have the desire or the will **TO DO IT**, therefore according to Paul, we are to have the attitude that we are **DEAD TO SIN** so that **WE WILL NO LONGER HAVE THE DESIRE TO SIN**. That **IS** a very tall order, but according to Messiah **IT IS** very possible to accomplish, for Messiah Himself says, apart from Me you can do nothing (*John 5:15*) **BUT** He also tells us, in *Philippians 4:13 that we can do ALL THINGS THROUGH MESSIAH WHO STRENGTHENS US*.

According to Scripture and Messiah Himself, we are to mimic and or copy Him and the Torah obedient Life that He willingly and lovingly led while He was here on earth, and *verse 10 For in that Messiah died, He DIED UNTO SIN ONCE: BUT in that He LIVES, He lives unto Elohim. 11 Likewise reckon you also YOURSELVES TO BE DEAD INDEED UNTO SIN, BUT ALIVE UNTO ELOHIM THROUGH YESHUA MESSIAH OUR ADONAI, THE LIVING TORAH*.

Next Paul tells us something that **IS** very profound and something that gives me great comfort. Paul says in *verse 12 Let NOT SIN therefore REIGN in your mortal body, that you should OBEY it in the lusts thereof. 13 Neither yield you your members as instruments of unrighteousness, lawlessness, Torahlessness unto sin: BUT YIELD YOURSELVES UNTO ELOHIM, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of RIGHTEOUSNESS unto Elohim. YHVH is therefore COMMANDING US to Obey His inerrant everlasting teaching and instructions, His directives for everlasting Life, His TORAH*.

The key word **IS** the word **REIGN**, which means to rule over you. That, my friends, **IS THE FORGIVING GRACE** of YHVH. By this statement, YHVH tells us that He understands that we will err and sin on occasion, **BUT** we are **NOT** to let that sinning attitude **RULE** or **REIGN** our lives, **IF** we truly repent and return to His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah and try to do better, **THEN** He, through the Scripture tells us that *YHVH is just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness*. Let me put it this way, we may **NOT** be able to stop a bird from landing on our head, **BUT** we sure can **STOP HIM** from making his nest there!

From the very beginning, the Torah has set the bar very high, and the Living Torah, our Messiah, came to show us that **IT IS indeed possible to live by** that very high standard, and be holy as YHVH

IS Holy, and because our heavenly Father, through His foreknowledge knows that we **CANNOT** do so by and or through our own strength, He has, through His grace and mercy **GIVEN US** His Holy Spirit, who **IS** specifically tasked with **CAUSING** every willing surrendered heart to walk out the Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, *Ezekiel 36:27*, **WHICH DOES INDEED MAKE US HOLY AS HE IS HOLY**, and **ALL WE HAVE TO DO** to appropriate this helping hand from our loving heavenly Father's Holy Spirit, **IS** surrender our lives to Him, or as James tells us in *James 4:7* **Submit Yourselves therefore to Elohim. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.** That, my friends, **IS** the grace and the love that our heavenly Father, in action in our lives.

The next two verses are, to say the least, difficult to understand and I will do my best to explain what it means. First of all we have to understand what **SIN IS**. According to Scripture, **SIN IS TRANSGRESSION OF THE LAW, THE TORAH**, *1John 3:4*. Please understand that the Law **IS GIVEN TO US BY ELOHIM TO POINT OUT TO ALL OF US, WHAT SIN IS**, and when we sin we do indeed come **UNDER THE LAW** and suffer the consequences of breaking the Law. However **IF** we choose **TO WILLINGLY AND LOVINGLY FOLLOW AND OBEY THE LAW**, the Torah and **DO NOT SIN, THEN THE LAW DOES NOT APPLY TO US**, and we therefore **DO NOT SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES** of breaking the Law, for the consequences of breaking the Law **ONLY** applies to those who *break* the Law, therefore when we willingly surrender our wills to our heavenly Father, Scripture tells us that YHVH, through His grace and mercy, fills us with His Holy Spirit, who in turn causes every willing heart to walk **IN OBEDIENCE TO** YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, (*Ezekiel 36:27*). In other words, when we willingly choose to obey the Law, we do **NOT SUFFER** any of the penalties or consequences associated with breaking the Law. In that sense **WE ARE NOT UNDER THE LAW**; only those that break the law suffer the consequences of their transgression, and therefore they do indeed come **UNDER THE LAW**, for the Law **IS** the Living Word of the Father, and we are told by Messiah, that the Word of Elohim **IS** what judges us. *John 12:48* **He that rejects Me, and receives NOT My Words, has one that judges him: the WORD that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.**

In *Romans 7:1* Paul gives us the definition of when the **LAW** has dominion over people, *Verse 1* **Know you not, brethren, (for I speak to them that KNOW THE TORAH, THE LAW), how that the Torah (Law) HAS DOMINION OVER A MAN AS LONG AS HE LIVES? IF** you believe what Paul is telling you, then **ALL** people that have ever lived, are now living and will live in the future are **UNDER THE DOMINION OF THE TORAH** (Law) as long as they are alive.

Now let's read these two verses again. *14* **For sin shall NOT have dominion over you: for you are NOT UNDER THE LAW, but under grace. 15** *What then? Shall we sin, because we are NOT UNDER THE LAW, but under grace? ELOHIM FORBID.*

The word **DOMINION IS** extremely important in the context of this verse, for it truly explains to us what Paul **IS** trying to say, when he says the words, *For sin shall NOT have DOMINION over you.* When YHVH created Adam, He gave him *dominion* over the whole earth, and that means that the whole earth came under the law, or the authority of Adam. The earth had no choice, for it could not choose for itself, it was created by Elohim and placed under the **DOMINION OR AUTHORITY** of Adam. However Adam did **NOT** have the same restriction placed upon him, he had a choice, and the choice that Adam had **IS**, to either come under YHVH's dominion, under YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah, or under the dominion of his fleshly desires. Unfortunately for us and for him, Adam chose his fleshly desires. We, like Adam have all followed the same pattern, *for ALL have sinned and fallen short of the glory of Elohim.* What Paul **IS** saying

IS that we **ALL** come under the Law when we allow **SIN** to have dominion over us, **BUT IF** we have surrendered ourselves to **RIGHTEOUSNESS** (surrendered in obedience to YHVH's Torah) **THEN** we no longer willingly **SIN** and therefore we are no longer *under the Torah (Law)*, **BECAUSE** we have willingly chosen **NOT TO SIN**. Let me then rewrite *verse 14* in a way that will help you to understand, **YOU ARE NOT UNDER THE LAW, BUT UNDER GRACE, for SIN shall NOT have dominion or authority over you.** Can you see and understand what Paul **IS** saying? He is saying that you only come under the Law, **WHEN YOU SIN, BUT IF** you are **KEEPING, FOLLOWING AND DOING** the Law, the Torah, you are **NOT** under the dominion or the authority of the Law, the Torah **BECAUSE** you are willingly **KEEPING THE LAW, THE TORAH. IF YOU WILLINGLY CHOOSE TO FOLLOW THE RIGHTEOUSNESS** of YHVH, follow and obey His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, **THEN** you are walking **IN OBEDIENCE TO THE TORAH**, the Law of Elohim, **YOU ARE ONE WITH THE LAW**, you are therefore **NOT UNDER THE LAW, BUT YOU ARE WALKING IN HARMONY WITH THE LAW.**

Let me use another verse to emphasize what Paul **IS** saying when he says the words, *for you are NOT UNDER THE LAW.* **Romans 8:7** **Because THE CARNAL MIND IS ENMITY against Elohim: FOR IT IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE LAW, THE TORAH OF ELOHIM, neither indeed can be. 8 So THEN THEY THAT ARE IN THE FLESH CANNOT PLEASE ELOHIM.** The surrendered mind **IS NOT AT ENMITY WITH ELOHIM BECAUSE** the *surrendered mind* has willingly and lovingly chosen **TO BE SUBJECT TO THE LAW, THE TORAH OF ELOHIM**, the surrendered mind **IS IN HARMONY WITH THE TORAH, IT IS ONE WITH THE LIVING WORD OF ELOHIM**, however the mind that chooses **NOT TO BE SUBJECT TO THE LAW OR TORAH OF ELOHIM IS AT ENMITY WITH ELOHIM**, and **IT IS AT ENMITY WITH ELOHIM BECAUSE IT WILL NOT ALLOW ITSELF TO BE SUBJECT TO THE LAW OF ELOHIM**, in other words the carnal mind **WILL NOT** let the Living Word of Elohim, His Torah of Life **HAVE DOMINION OVER IT**. Paul is telling us that the people that possess a **CARNAL MIND** will **NOT ALLOW THEMSELVES TO COME UNDER THE LAW, and therefore they CANNOT PLEASE YHVH.**

Again Paul asks the question, *verse 15* **What then? Shall we sin, shall we transgress the Torah, because we are NOT UNDER THE TORAH (LAW), but under grace? ELOHIM FORBID.**

Now listen carefully to Paul's answer. *Verse 16* **Know you not, that to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants you are to whom you obey; whether of sin unto death,** Can you see and truly understand what Paul **IS SAYING HERE**, he says **WHEN WE SIN**, the Torah, the Law **CURSES US**, and **IT KILLS US, BECAUSE** the wages of **SIN**, the transgression of the Torah **IS DEATH**, however **IF** we choose to follow and **OBEY** YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, **THEN** we become **SERVANTS UNTO RIGHTEOUSNESS?**

Now let me give you some supporting verses:

Deuteronomy 11:22 **For if you shall diligently KEEP all these Commandments which I Command you, to do them, to love YHVH your Elohim, to walk in all His ways, and to cleave unto Him; 23 THEN will YHVH drive out all these nations from before you, and you shall possess greater nations and mightier than yourselves. 24 Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread SHALL BE YOURS: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be. 25 There SHALL NO MAN BE able to stand before you: for YHVH your Elohim SHALL lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon ALL the land that you**

shall tread upon, as He has said unto you. 26 Behold, I set before you this day **A BLESSING AND A CURSE**; 27 A blessing, **IF** you **OBEY THE COMMANDMENTS, the Torah** of YHVH your Elohim, which I command you this day: 28 And a **CURSE, IF** you will **NOT OBEY THE COMMANDMENTS, THE TORAH** of YHVH your Elohim, **BUT TURN ASIDE out of the WAY which I Command you this day**, to go after other gods, which you have not known.

Deuteronomy 27:13 And these shall stand upon mount Ebal to curse; Reuben, Gad, and Asher, and Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali.14 And the Levites shall speak, and say unto all the men of Israel with a loud voice,

Cursed be the man that makes any graven or molten image, an abomination unto YHVH, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and puts it in a secret place. And all the people shall answer and say, **Amen.**

Cursed be he that sets light by his father or his mother. And all the people shall say, **Amen.** **Cursed** be he that removes his neighbour's landmark. And all the people shall say, **Amen.** **Cursed** be he that makes the blind to wander **out of the way**. And all the people shall say, **Amen.**

Cursed be he that perverts the judgment of the stranger, fatherless, and widow. And all the people shall say, **Amen.**

Cursed be he that lies with his father's wife; because he uncovers his father's skirt. And all the people shall say, **Amen.**

Cursed be he that lies with any manner of beast. And all the people shall say, **Amen.**

Cursed be he that lies with his sister, the daughter of his father, or the daughter of his mother. And all the people shall say, **Amen.**

Cursed be he that lies with his mother in law. And all the people shall say, **Amen.**

Cursed be he that smites his neighbour secretly. And all the people shall say, **Amen.**

Cursed be he that takes reward to slay an innocent person. And all the people shall say, **Amen.**

CURSED BE HE THAT DOES NOT CONFIRM ALL THE WORDS OF THIS TORAH (LAW) TO DO THEM. AND ALL THE PEOPLE SHALL SAY, AMEN.

Now I know that **THIS IS A LOT OF SCRIPTURE TO QUOTE, BUT** I wanted you to see that disobedience to YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, disobedience to His Torah, His Law **IS WHAT BRINGS YOU UNDER THE LAW** and the curses embedded in the Torah (Law) **WILL** be laid upon those that disobey the Torah.

Next Paul tells us that those that have surrendered their wills in loving obedience to the Father, that prior to their submission to Elohim, they were indeed servants **OF SIN**, verse 17 **But Elohim be thanked, that you WERE the servants of SIN BUT NOW that YOU HAVE OBEYED FROM THE HEART THAT FORM OF DOCTRINE WHICH WAS DELIVERED YOU.**

What doctrine was delivered onto them, 2John 9 **Whosoever transgresses, and abides NOT in the DOCTRINE of Messiah, has NOT Elohim. He that abides in the DOCTRINE of Messiah, HE HAS BOTH THE FATHER AND THE SON.** What **IS THE DOCTRINE** of Messiah? The book of John answers that question in John 7:16 **Yeshua answered them, and said, My DOCTRINE IS NOT MY OWN, BUT IT IS the DOCTRINE of Him that sent Me.**

Can you see that when we willingly choose **NOT TO SIN**, we are then made free from sin, and become the servants of **RIGHTEOUSNESS (Torah)**, and therefore we are in harmony **WITH THE TORAH, BECAUSE WE WALK IN OBEDIENCE TO AND WITH THE TORAH**, YHVH's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions. **IT IS NOT COMPLICATED, IF WE**

WILLINGLY CHOOSE TO FOLLOW RIGHTEOUSNESS, it means that we are **OBEYING THE TORAH AND NOT SURRENDERED TO SIN**; therefore we don't come **UNDER, NOR SUFFER** the consequences embedded in the Torah (Law) for breaking it. In other words, when **WE WALK IN THE SPIRIT** we are actually walking at or above the *bar* that is set by YHVH's Torah, **THAT BAR IS SET AT THE MINIMUM LEVEL FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS**, below it, we are sinning, and above it we are walking in the Spirit, and therefore impervious to the consequences for breaking the Torah (Law), which simply means **THAT WE ARE OBEYING THE TORAH AND NOT UNDER THE TORAH (LAW)**.

The Christian church Father's have taught all of their people that Messiah set the bar so high that nobody could keep it, **BUT** as we study the Torah, we find that the bar **IS SET** at the very minimum level that **IS REQUIRED FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS**, because it teaches us to be **HOLY** as YHVH **IS HOLY**, and **YHVH HAS COMMANDED FROM THE VERY BEGINNING OF TIME TO BE HOLY AS HE IS HOLY**. Furthermore, **IF** we believe **WHAT** the church fathers tell us, that we **CANNOT KEEP THE LAW**, then, they are making Messiah **OUT TO BE A LIAR**, for Messiah Himself said: **We CAN do ALL things through Messiah who strengthens us**. The word **ALL** in this verse **LEAVES NO DOUBT WHATSOEVER**; when we surrender our wills to Messiah and willingly and lovingly choose to accept the Living Torah as our Master and Saviour, **THEN** the Spirit of Elohim actually **CAUSES ALL** who willingly surrender their wills to His, **TO KEEP, FOLLOW, OBEY AND DO ALL** the Laws of Elohim, **ALL** of His Torah that pertains to them.

Let me give you an example that I hope will help make this point clearer. An Olympic high jumper, **IS NEVER** disqualified by the bar (which is a picture of righteousness) when he jumps over it, because he has achieved his goal, and that goal **IS** to be above the bar (**LAW**); it is only when he knocks the bar off of its mooring that he is disqualified, or suffers the consequences for not *reaching the goal* or missing the mark, the Torah. Likewise when we see the bar set by the Living Torah of YHVH, our Messiah, and we willingly make the effort to go over the bar which is the minimum level to reach our goal, we therefore **WALK IN RIGHTEOUSNESS**, we have achieved our goal, and we are **NOT** disqualified, and the Olympic judges, which **IS** a picture of the Torah, the Law, cannot do anything to that jumper, because he does not come under their authority, for their authority only comes into play **WHEN** the bar **IS KNOCKED OFF OF ITS MOORINGS**, in other words the Olympic jumper, **IS NOT UNDER THE LAW**, because he is above it.

Next Paul speaks of the extreme weakness of our flesh and how easy we have surrendered our flesh to uncleanness and iniquity, Torahlessness, but Paul offers us a better way, and that is, now that we have Messiah in our lives we can willingly choose to become servants of **RIGHTEOUSNESS** and walk above the minimum level, above the **BAR** that the Living Torah has set, because the Living Torah **IS NOW WITHIN US** and YHVH's Holy Spirit will cause every willing surrendered obedient heart to willingly and skilfully jump over the bar, **IF WE WILL ALLOW HIM TO; IT IS ALL UP TO US**. Verse 19 *I speak after the manner of men because of the INFIRMITY OF YOUR FLESH: for as you have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity, Torahlessness; even so NOW YIELD YOUR MEMBERS SERVANTS TO RIGHTEOUSNESS (TORAH) UNTO HOLINESS*.

Verse 20 *For when YOU WERE the servants of SIN, you were free from RIGHTEOUSNESS (Torah)*.

This is telling us that prior to accepting the Living Word, the Living Torah as our Master and Saviour, we constantly walked under the bar, the minimum level of righteousness set by Torah;

occasionally we tried by our own strength to jump over the bar, but never could **DO IT ON OUR OWN**, which **IS** a picture of us trying to live by our own righteousness, which is described as filthy rags by our heavenly Father. Paul says in *verse 21 What fruit had you **THEN** in those things whereof you are **NOW ASHAMED**? For the end (telos, goal) of those things is death. 22 But now being made free from **SIN**, (from Torahlessness, which means, jumping over the bar, set at the minimum level for YHVH's righteousness) and become servants to Elohim, you have your fruit unto holiness, and the end (telos, goal) which is everlasting life. 23 For the wages of sin (Torahlessness, missing the mark) is death; **BUT** the gift of Elohim, His Torah made Flesh, **IS** eternal life through Yeshua Messiah, the Living Torah our Adonai.*

I hope you can see what Paul **IS** telling us, which **IS**, when we **OBEY** YHVH's Commandments, the Torah of our heavenly Father, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Living Torah, we walk at or above the minimum level for **RIGHTEOUSNESS** set by the Torah, the Law, which means that we are walking in total harmony with the Torah, the Law of Liberty, but without adhering the minimum level of the Law, the Torah, we **CANNOT** become Holy as YHVH **IS** Holy, and therefore **HE WILL NOT MAKE HIS ABODE WITH US**, and unless we change our path, we **WILL BE LOST FOREVER**. Think of it this way, at or above the bar (Law, Torah) you are walking in the spirit, under the bar (under the law) you are walking in your own understanding, walking in uncleanness and iniquity onto iniquity, you are Torahless.

Please remember that **WE WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE** for absolutely every single thing we **SAY** and **DO**, therefore let us **SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF ELOHIM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS AND ALL THESE OTHER THINGS, WILL INDEED BE ADDED UNTO US. Amein**

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

Have a great Elohim blessed week and may Yahweh bless your every thought, and your every deed. Until we meet again, שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵיכֶם, Shalom Aleykem. Amein