

**Freed to Become Slaves – “Fighting for Obedience under Grace”**  
*Romans 6 and miscellaneous Scriptures*

INTRODUCTION:

*Illustration #1: The importance of knowing the place of grace in sanctification.*

*Illustration #2: The proper relationship between my efforts and grace realities.*

*The grace realities of Romans 6 summarized: “By His grace, God united me to Christ-crucified and –raised, so that I would be powerfully freed from the tyranny of sin to undoubtedly become a slave of God, righteousness and obedience.”*

4 Practical Helps for fighting for obedience (fighting against sin) under grace:

- I. A pronounced, prayerful and restful trust in the gospel of grace must tower high over you active fight for obedience.
- II. Direct your accountability first and most to the gospel and the grace of God in sanctification.

- III. Your best success in sanctification comes through fighting sin early and hard with grace in the gospel.
- IV. Why has God left me in this mixed condition in which grace realities abound to sanctification but my flesh still caves in to sin? (adapted from John Newton)
1. To produce humility and continued distrust of self.
  2. To endear to me God's method of salvation – grace (and the righteousness of Christ).
  3. To draw attention to the ongoing keeping power of the grace of God.
  4. To shame Satan as he repeatedly discovers divinely set bounds on the extent of his rage against me.
  5. To learn by degrees from my own weakness against sin how to warn, pity and bear with others in their sin.
  6. To reconcile me to the thought of death.