

Two Natures

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 6.

B. A Christian struggles to live the new life even though he knows that he is a new creation. (II Corinthians 5:17)

II. Paul says that a person is not to continue in sin habitually just because he has received grace—it is impossibility.

A. The reason one is no longer to live in habitual sin is that a Christian has been put in the sphere of Christ.

1. When Christ died on the cross, we died also. When Jesus died on the cross, He took care of a believer's sinful nature.

2. Many Christians assume that there should no longer be a sinful nature; however, Christ separated a person from his sinful nature—He did not abolish it.

3. A Christian still has a sinful nature, but he no longer is obligated to sin.

B. The second reason one is no longer to live in habitual sin is that a Christian has been given a new nature. Believers have a new power—the power of Jesus Christ Himself.

III. One should not sin habitually because grace is not lenient.

A. Paul says that a person should give himself as a slave to righteousness.

B. A Christian no longer has to yield to sin. We can trust the Lord for help. (Romans 8:26-27)

C. There are two natures—the old nature and the new nature from Christ. We must live according to the new nature by the power of the Spirit.

Application questions:

1. Do believers still have a sin nature? What does this mean?

2. How would you respond to a believer who says it no longer matters whether he sins because he is covered by God's grace? Explain.

3. Why is self-reliance dangerous in the Christian life? What is the solution?
