

13. Reckon: Dead to Sin

When we put our faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ to save us, amazing transformations took place. We were redeemed or purchased back by God. We were forgiven. We were made new and made spiritually alive. We were transferred out of the kingdom of darkness and placed into the kingdom of light.

One critical truth to know and understand is that we became united with Christ in his death and we will be united with Him in his resurrection. As we walk in the truth of this verse, sin has no power of over. This is an amazing truth that is key to both knowing and understanding in winning the battle for purity.

Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Col 3:3,4 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Rom 6:1-11 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive

to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of our body to him as instruments of righteousness. For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

MEMORIZE: Rom 6:11 or Gal 2:20

Questions:

1. What does it mean to be crucified with Christ?
2. How does Christ's death on the cross, and our being united with him, free us from the power and dominion of sin?

Practical Suggestion. Memorize the Roman 6 passage. When you start to struggle with temptation, first, identify the temptation. Put the name of the 'sin', i.e lust, adultery, or masturbation in place of the word sin. Then quote the passage with the new word. "What then, shall I continue to 'lust' that grace may abound... do this through out the entire passage. Next, picture Christ hanging on the cross. Picture in your mind, you hanging on the cross next to Jesus. Now picture that everywhere Christ is bleeding, you are bleeding. Now picture Christ, right after He said, "Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit." Then he died. He is still hanging there. Now picture yourself, you have just died... This is how I 'reckon' or 'count' myself as dead with Christ. When I think through this process and this passage; my lustful desires go away and I am no longer under the power of sin and lust.

Discussion: How do you apply Rom 6 to your life?

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