"IN CHRIST – The Life of Victory"

("Know, Reckon, Yield")

ROMANS 6:1-14

1-19-2020

INTRODUCTION: In Adam I obtained his Sin Nature which brought me Death (Rom. 5:12-21)
In Christ I obtained His Righteousness which brings me Life
(Eternal life in the Future and Victorious life in the Present)

***We as believers can experience victory over sin!**

How?

I. REALIZE YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO CHRIST (v. 3-10)
(Know who you are "in Christ")

You need to know that:

A. Union with Christ is union with His death
(a look back - v. 3-4, 6-7)

B. Union with Christ's death is union with His resurrection
(a look ahead - v. 5, 8-10)

II. BELIEVE THAT CHRIST SET YOU FREE! (v. 11)
("Reckon" your new life "in faith")

A. Live as if you were "dead to sin" (v. 11a)

B. Live as if you were already resurrected (v. 11b)

III. OBEY ONLY YOUR NEW MASTER (v. 12-13)
("Yield" your life over to God "in action")

A. Don't yield to sin (your enemy) (v. 12-13a)

B. Do yield to God (your ally) (v. 13b)

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HRM *10-14-2023*

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INTRODUCTION:

NOTE: Previous context - how being "in Adam" is compared (5:14) and contrasted with being "in Christ" (5:15-21).



I am Linked to him Seminally (Naturally & Biologically by my first physical Birth) (Romans 5:12-14)	I am linked to Him Spiritually (Supernaturally by New Birth) (Romans 5:15-21)
I have obtained a Sin Nature from Adam	I have obtained a New Nature from Christ
Sin lives in me	Christ's Spirit lives in me
Sin is imparted to me	Righteousness is imputed to me
My spirit is dead in relation to God	My spirit is alive in relation to God
I am a sinner who will one day die physically	I am righteous and will live spiritually & physically
I am defeated in the power of the flesh (Romans 7)	I am victorious in the power of Christ's Spirit (Romans 8)
I am Condemned (declared guilty and must pay for my sin) (Romans 1:18-3:20)	I am Justified (declared Righteous because my sin debt has been paid) (Romans 3:21-5:11)

To summarize:

- In Adam I obtained his Sin Nature which brought me Death (Rom. 5:12-21)
- In Christ I obtained His Righteousness which brings me Life
  (Eternal life in the Future and Victorious life in the Present)

In chapter 6:1ff, Paul now moves from justification (chapt. 3:21 - chap. 5) to sanctification (chap. 6-8), from judicial forgiveness of sin to daily victory over sin; from righteousness imputed to righteousness imparted.

Misunderstanding of grace today.

Many today are ignorant of the true motive for Godly living.

What is your motive for Godly living? Many view doctrine of eternal security as a green light for sin.

READ V. 5:20-21. People after hearing this would rationalize: "If more sin means God will have to give more grace, then sin must be good for God and for the Gospel."

Rom. 6:1 - Paul anticipates the question. The critics' question is asked in such a way that he appears to be concerned that God's grace would increase - when really he is seeking to justify his own sin.

Peter said some of Paul's teachings were being twisted (II Pet. 3:16).

Paul knew of people who would confuse "the justification of the justification of the sinner with justification for sinning."

READ v. 2 - Paul rejects even the thought.
Not only impermissible, but impossible!

Paul responds in an interesting manner. You would think he would say, "Don't sin" in a command, or even "You are to die to sin daily."

Though we were "dead <u>in</u> sin" (Eph. 2:1), now we are "dead <u>to</u> sin."

***We as believers can experience victory over sin!**
How?
1) Know 2) Reckon 3) Yield

I. REALIZE YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO CHRIST (v. 3-10)

(<u>Know</u> who you are "in Christ")

V. 3 question indicates an inexcusable ignorance.

Paul is going to show <u>how</u> they "died to sin."

Explain baptism into Christ:

Because word "Baptizo" is transliterated rather than translated, it has caused confusion.

Simply means to immerse, and does <u>not</u> necessarily imply water baptism.

EX: Christ reference to His own death (Mk. 10:38-39).

Proofs of Spirit baptism:

1) Well-known fact that Jesus would baptize with Holy Spirit (Mt. 3:11 - "I indeed baptize you with water...but there cometh..."); Acts 1:5).

2) Paul in I Cor. 12:13 - "By one Spirit are we all baptized. . ."

3) V. 3 - "into Jesus Christ" -- not "in the <u>name</u> of . . ." (which was typical formula for water - Mt. 28:19; Acts 8:16) (Gal. 3:27 - "baptized into Christ").

4) Language is stronger than analogy or symbol. Speaking of reality not ritual (picture of illustration). Showing a specific point when one "died to sin" (v. 2), was "crucified with Christ" (v. 6), and "died with Christ" (v. 8). This didn't happen at our water baptism.

Paul is <u>not</u> giving the <u>picture</u> behind the reality [water baptism], but the <u>reality</u> itself [Spirit baptism].

However, by using the term "baptism", Paul intimates that water baptism stands behind as a symbol of the reality.

In the N.T., the word "baptism" points to a union (or a joining together).

1. When people submitted to John's baptism, they were making evident their desire to unite to the message he preached (Mk. 1:4-8). (They were identifying themselves with [showing agreement with] John's preaching of repentance).

2. John using the word "baptism" spoke of Jesus uniting believers to the Holy Spirit and unbelievers as being joined into the fires of hell (mt. 3:11).

   (NOTE: The preposition that always follows the verb "baptized" is the Greek "en," which means "in." The idea of putting someone into something else again supports the idea of a union or joining)

3. Jesus spoke of how He would enter into a union with suffering and death (by again using the word "baptism") (Mk. 10:38, 39).

   (NOTE: Peter uses the term in this same sense - I Pet. 3:21).

4. Paul spoke of how the Israelites united ("baptized") unto Moses as their leader as they crossed the read Sea - ". . . and did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink." - I Cor. 10:2-4.

5. Water baptism for believers (Acts 8:36-38) and reveals the Christian's unashamedness to be identified (publically linked) with the name of Christ (Mt. 28:19; Acts 8:16; I Cor. 1:13-15), and willingness to join the ranks of Christ's disciples (I Cor. 15:29).

6. Finally, the word "baptism" describes how the believer has been united to Christ (and His "body") via the Holy Spirit [I Cor. 12:13; Col. 2:10=13; Ga. 3:27; Eph. 4:5 - "unity (v. 3) is produced by "one baptism" (v. 5)]

This is the sense in which Paul is using the term in Rom. 6:3-4.

You need to know that: You have been united with Christ!

Christ and the believer have been married or merged.

ILLUS: Marriage unites a man and woman together in such a way that what one has now belongs to the other.

Her bills are my bills; my checkbook is her checkbook (and vice-versa).
The same is true for talents, food, house, car, other property, etc.
We wear the same last name, share the same burdens, joys, and victories, etc.

So it is with Christ and His bride.
This mysterious union described in Eph. 5:30-32 reveals the incomprehensible truth that the believer and Christ hold all things in common.

ILLUS: How someone does or wins something and their spouse is automatically included in the prize (He/she benefits by virtue of the relationship had with the winner).

EX: Super Bowl winners all receive $118,000 whether they play or not, by virtue of the fact that they were united to the winning team.

Because of our salvation (justification), we are brought into such unity that Christ's spiritual assets are credited to our formerly bankrupt account.

Christ's finished work is credited to your account.

God views Christ and the believer as being together; one; "joint heirs" (Rom. 8:16-17).

This union is called a mystery (Eph. 5:32) that is spiritual (I Cor. 12:13) and living (Jn. 15:4).

A. Union with Christ is union with His death (a look back - v. 3-4, 6-7)

1. We have been united together in death (v. 3)

Believers are so closely united with Christ that what He did, we did.

"We thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead" (II Cor. 5:14)

2. We have been united together in burial (v. 4)

--Our burial with Christ shows how fully identified we are to His death.

--Christ's burial proved reality of Christ's death.

--Marks the end of (finality of) death, and the certainty of a resurrection. Because our resurrection is so certain we ought to live as though we were already resurrected.

Col. 3:1 - "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above."

God views the believer as already having died and been resurrected. The Christian's resurrection is so certain, it is stated in the past tense. SEE: Gal. 2:20; Col. 3:1-3; II Cor. 5:14-17

V. 4
"Death" = lit. "the death" - the definite article points specifically to the death of Christ.

3. We have been united together in crucifixion (v. 6-7).

Purpose of crucifixion is that the "body of sin might be destroyed."

I Cor. 15:51-57 - "Behold I show you a mystery..."

This "knowing" of your real position in Christ will lead you to walk differently.

In God's sight, we stand as if our old nature were totally removed.

"People today talk of their act of daily crucifying the "old man." It stirs up pride to try to do something by crucifying the old man -- Christ has already gotten the victory!

Gal. 2:20 - "I am crucified with Christ . . ."

V. 6b

"Not serve sin" = personification. Views sin ("him") as a ruling force that demands submission from its subjects.

**Don't take orders from that old master, old slave driver!

V. 7

Impossible for a "dead man to serve sin"

If we would recognize and meditate on our new relationship to Christ (our new Master), we would see that we no longer have an obligation to the old master.

You need to know that:

B. Union with Christ's death is union with His resurrection (a look ahead) (v. 5, 8-10)

V. 5

"If" = a condition

1. We have been "Planted together" = a fusing, uniting (inseparable union).

   Forms basis for resurrection.

2. We will live together (v. 8)

   We will live with Christ because we were united in His death.

IF - condition. It is obvious that <u>if</u> we are considered by God as:
1) dead together
2) buried
3) planted, &
4) crucified together,
. . . then we will certainly be resurrected together.

V. 4

NOTE: Paul does not complete the verse in the most obvious and balanced way. We would think he would say: "Like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the father, even so we also <u>will be raised up</u> . . ."

By not completing the thought this way, Paul is indicating a transition in thought from the spiritual reality to the practical walk of the believer.

Paul sees the <u>reality</u> of the risen Christ as being a source of power which enables believers to sustain a different motivation, orientation, and lifestyle (cp. Rom. 7:6, I Cor. 15:45, II Cor. 3:6, Col. 3:1).

"We believe" (v. 8) = dogmatic confidence

V. 9-10 - We will live with Christ - we are united into His never-ending life.

*We believe (v. 8) is based on "knowing" (v. 9), not on feelings.

READ Acts 2:24 - Impossible for Christ to be held in its power.

V. 10 contrasts Christ's <u>one-time</u> death for our sin with His never-ending life.

I Pet. 3:18 - "For Christ hath <u>once</u> suffered for sins..."

II. BELIEVE THAT CHRIST SET YOU FREE! (v. 11)

("Reckon" your new life "in faith")

V. 11 - Paul's goal: Turns doctrine into duty,
position into practice,
relationship into daily reality

Reckoning is the key to victory.

DEF - to consider, evaluate, calculate, think.

*Add up the facts in v. 1-10 and reckon yourself as if you were dead to sin and alive to God.

*Look at yourself in the true light

The reality of death with Christ and the certainty of future life with Him supplies the motive for present moral purity.

Reckon = a life of faith.

A. Live as if you were "dead to sin" (v. 11a)

NOTE: Paul does not command you to "die as Christ died" or to "live as Christ lived."

Continually, constantly remind yourself of the truth - "I am dead to sin in my position "in Christ."

"Death cancels obligations and breaks all ties" (Thomas, p. 168).

Most believers either:

1) Don't know their position
Or 2) Don't meditate on it
Or 3) Forget to continually view themselves as God sees them, and so fall into sin.

This is one reason Paul had to say: ". . . so then with the mind I myself serve the Law of God; but with the flesh the Law of sin" (Rom. 7:25).

"Dead to sin" = ILLUS: - of a Jewish father kicking out his son and saying, "This son is to me dead."

B. Live as if you were already resurrected (v. 11b)

(Day by day, hour by hour)

We should strive to live as though we were already resurrected.

Requires a life of faith.

Live the resurrected life now!

III. OBEY ONLY YOUR NEW MASTER (v. 12-13)

("Yield" your life over to God "in action")

After knowing the facts
& reckoning with faith,
we can now yield in actions

A. Don't yield to sin (your enemy) (v. 12-13a)

Paul pictures (personifies) "sin" as if he were a dictator - demanding obedience to military service, and providing soldiers with rations to satisfy lustful appetites.

Don't give that ruler the opportunity to use your body parts for his wicked purposes.

"Instruments" = weapons of warfare (in this battle)

"Don't take your weapons and give them to the enemy!

You would be: traitor - foolish - disloyal – treason in this spiritual war

“Benedict Arnold was an American military officer who served as a general during the American Revolutionary War, fighting for the American Continental Army before defecting to the British in 1780. George Washington had given him his fullest trust and placed him in command of the fortifications at West Point, New York. Arnold planned to surrender the fort to British forces, but the plot was discovered in September 1780 and he fled to the British. His name quickly became a byword in the United States for treason and betrayal because he led the British army in battle against the very men whom he had once commanded.” (Wikipedia)

B. Do yield to God (your ally) (v. 13b)

Begin yielding and allow God to work through you (Phil. 2:13 - "For it is God which worketh in you...").

"Yield" - present tense (Rom. 12:1-2).

CONCLUSION: v. 14

II Tim. 2:4 - You must desire to "please Him who hath chosen [you] to be a soldier."

Verse 14 is a positive, encouraging statement:
"Sin will (future) <u>not</u> have dominion over you."

<u>The Law</u> - commands, demands, rebukes, condemns, and restrains, but can't save or give victory over sin.

<u>Grace</u> - Christ's grace gives salvation and victory over sin (By grace, Christ lives in us and therefore we are dead to what Jesus died to remove: sin, death, and the curse of the Law).

2 Spiritual Keys to Victory over Sin:

1. *Have the right* **<u>IDENTITY</u>**: "I am in Christ"
   (I died with Christ and rose again with Him – Romans 6)

2. *Have the right* **<u>POWER</u>**: "Christ is in me"
   (He lives His life through me – Galatians 2:20)

   I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. (Gal. 2:20)

Live with the consciousness that <u>you belong to Christ</u>, and let this be the motive for Godly living.

Know, Reckon, and Yield!