

Monday, July 19, 2010—Grace School of the Bible Summer Family Conference

Topic: *I Reckon Myself Dead and Alive:* A study of the necessity of faith in the face of our identity in Christ (Romans 6:11-14).

Introduction

- 2010 West Michigan Grace Bible Conference: The Grace Life at Home. Oct. 8-10
- Printing ministry. Blog sign up.

Romans 6:11

- ***“Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. ”***
- Likewise—or in this manner (*Strong’s*), or in like manner (*Webster’s 1828*).
- Reckon—the same Greek word is translated as impute and reckon in Romans 4. The word is also translated as count, account, and number in the King James Bible.
 - Impute—Romans 4: 6, 8, 11, 22-24
 - Reckon—Romans 4:4, 9-10, 8:18
- The word “reckon” deals with reality. If I reckon (logizomai) that my bank book has \$25 in it, it has \$25 in it. Otherwise I am deceiving myself. This word refers more to fact than supposition or opinion.
- In the context, Paul is saying there are some truths that we need to practically reckon or by faith impute as true and operative in our daily lives.
- Romans 6:3-5—believers have been spiritually identified with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection.
- Romans 6:6-7—our old sin nature was crucified and put to death through Jesus Christ. We have been made free from sin.
 - Romans 7:15-18—the body of sin that resides in our flesh has been destroyed. Thus making it possible to no longer serve sin.
- Romans 6:8-10—just as death no longer has any dominion over Christ so sin should not have dominion over us.

- Romans 6:11—there needs to be a practical accounting or reckoning in verse 11 of the truths presented in verses 3-10. We need to believe we are who the word says we are. We need to see ourselves that way Christ sees us. We no longer need to serve sin any longer. We have been made alive unto God through Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:12

- ***“Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.”***
- Reign—means to be king, the exercise kingly power. metaphorically it means to exercise the highest influence over, i.e. to control.
 - Romans 5:14, 17, 21
- Colossians 2:11—the circumcision made without hands has “put off” the body of the sins of the flesh. Our inner man (soul and spirit) has been cut free from the sin nature that resides in our flesh. We no longer have to follow that old flesh programming.

Romans 6:13

- ***“Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.”***
- Before we were saved all our members know how to do was sin because they were programmed to sin. Now that our old man is crucified and we are dead to sin our members can now be used as instruments of righteousness unto God.
 - Romans 6:16, 19
- Romans 7:5-6—before our salvation sowing to the flesh was all we were capable of doing. The result of sowing to the flesh is death.
- Galatians 5:16-18—now there is an internal struggle within every believer between two opposing forces. The flesh which is programmed to pull the believer toward sin and the spirit which desires to manifest the fruit of the Spirit. The result of this struggle is the as believers are unable to do the things that we would.
- Romans 7:13-20—does this sound like a person who is struggling between two opposing forces? While our soul and spirit have been cut away from our sinful we still reside within it for the time being.
- Romans 7:21-25—the law of sin in our members magnetically pulls us towards sin. Our flesh/members cannot help it because that is what they have been programmed to do sin.

- The law of sin is a nature law like the law of gravitation. Gravity pulls all objects toward earth it works the same way every time. So it is with the law of sin it pulls our members towards sin and manifesting the works/fruit of the flesh.
- How does one overcome the force of a natural law? By functioning in the reality and principal of a great law. Through the laws of aerodynamics and physics, specifically thrust and lift gravity can be overcome. So it is in our spiritual life.
- Romans 8:1-4—when we function under the force of a great natural law the righteousness of the law is fulfilled in us.

Romans 6:14

- ***“For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”***
- Dominion--to be lord of, to rule, have dominion over (*Strong's*), Sovereign or supreme authority; the power of governing and controlling (*Webster's 1828*).
- Following the law is never going to produce life only more sin and heart ache.
- We need to reckon and bring ourselves in line with what God says is true about us. Through the process of spiritual identification we have been made dead to sin but alive unto God.
- Let's function on the basis of the law of the spirit of life in Christ and be free from the law of sin and death.