

Living the Normal Christian life

Romans 6

Intro: Most Christians live such sub-normal Christian lives; that when someone finally becomes normal; we tend to think he is abnormal! Normal Christian living in Romans 6-8= by faith allowing Christ to be Himself in you & thru you.

I. The Problem of Ignorance vs. 6 "knowing this' 6 = "knowing this"

You must know [experience this truth]:

1. Know that your "old self" died when Christ died.
2. Know that you are free from Sin's power over you, because you "died" with Christ.

Note:

Meaning of the Gr. Word= Kata- argeo= Lit. Means to "cut off the energy", render powerless, To unemploy. It does not mean "done away with, destroyed, or removed."

1. You already "know" forgiveness from the penalty of Sin. [Romans 5:8]

Do you also know that Christ's death delivers you from Sin's power?

Illustration: The Days of Prohibition= Police breaking bottles of booze, but not shutting down the factories. Christ's resurrection has shut down the factory!

2. Then why so many defeated Christians?? See Romans 10:3, 4= Ignorance

Illustration: The flesh keeps trying, & God says Trusting is the key to victory
Self-sufficiency is our defeat! "They that are whole need not a physician...sick."

Religion= Like the Pharisees, shows only what the old Adam can do!!

Apply: You must believe that the old self died with Christ and you are freed to live in Christ.

II. The Problem of Reckoning vs.11

Meaning of the Gr. Word= "look upon yourself" LB; Even so "consider" yourself NAS; "count yourselves" NIV

It is a mathematician's word. Paul uses it as a new word for Faith. Our death to sin is God's accomplished FACT. Believe it, count on it!

1. What is reckoning? Grounded in "knowing this [vs. 6-9] we can live accordingly.

- 1) We do not pray for our victory= we already have it
- 2) We do not ask for God to crucify us, it is already done! See Gal 2:20

2. Reckoning is not "make believe."

This is not "positive thinking" but positive trusting in God's fact=I died with Christ.

3. What about temptation & sinning?

- 1) The sin nature is not removed, but it is defeated if you believe God's word.
- 2) You are only a slave to Sin if you will not surrender to Christ!
- 3) Bondage must be broken by your choice.

4. By faith we live=FACT, FAITH, FEELING

III. The Problem of Submitting vs. 6 "knowing this' vs. 13 ff

2nd half of Romans 6= 5 times we are told to "present; yield, or submit"

Meaning of the Gr. Word= to stand before the King in submission.

1. What does it mean to Present? NIV="offer yourselves"

- 1) You must yield to his Lordship= once for all time!



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- 2) You must daily die to self= affirm Christ's one time for all your times!
2. Submitting is releasing the Life of Christ's Spirit to love & live thru you.

IV. The Problem of Obeying vs. 16-18.

Key is vs. 17 *"you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching..."*

1. There is the obedience of duty. See 1st John 5; 3 "not a burden"
2. There is the obedience "from the heart" of a submitting life. *"Thanks be to God!!"*