

May Every Day Be A Day of Reckoning

Romans 6:1-13



In the first part of Romans chapter 6, God has set forth facts that the believer needs to **know**: “Know ye not...(v. 3); Knowing this...(v. 6); Knowing that...(v. 9). As we come to verse 11 we find the first command of the chapter: “Likewise **reckon** ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

The word “reckon” is a mathematical term meaning to calculate, to count, to count on something as being true. I am to take these facts into account, believe them, and consider them as true. I thus agree with God and see myself as having died to sin on the one hand, and yet as being alive to God in Christ my Lord. This life-transforming truth is also summarized in 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.”

The verb “reckon” (Rom. 6:11) is in the present tense. I am to keep on reckoning, day by day, moment by moment. Reckoning is my constant duty as I walk by faith. The word “reckon” is a faith word. By faith the believer must count on God’s facts and claim them as his very own. It is not enough just to know the facts. I must personally appropriate these facts by faith. God does not ask me to “reckon” a thing to be true in order to make it true. The facts are the facts whether I reckon or count them to be true or not. Yet, I will not benefit from the facts unless I claim them by faith.

Dead to sin; alive to God. Count it so!

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org

The Great Reversal

Ephesians 2:1-10



I was once dead to God and alive to sin. I was dead in trespasses and sins (Eph. 2:1). I had no relationship to God and no vital connection to Him. I was separated from God because of my sins (Isa. 59:2). My understanding was darkened and I was alienated from the life of God (Eph. 4:18). I was spiritually dead to God. But I was very much alive to sin. I practiced sin; I approved of sin; I continued in sin; I wallowed in sin; I enjoyed sin. My thoughts, words and deeds flowed out of a wicked and sin-filled heart. I was a slave to sin and had no way to free myself from its hold.

“But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared....God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us [made us alive] together with Christ” (Tit. 3:4; Eph. 2:4-5).

Because of the grace of God, a great reversal has taken place! Though once dead to God and alive to sin, I am now dead to sin and alive to God (Rom. 6:11). Sin is no longer my master. I now serve the living Christ (Col. 3:24). I am no longer God’s enemy; I have been reconciled (Rom. 5:10). The Son has made me free indeed (John 8:31-36). I have been called to the fellowship of God’s dear Son (1 Cor. 1:9). I have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light, that I might show forth His praises (1 Pet. 2:9). And I am never to forget that I am now dead indeed unto sin and alive indeed unto God.

My God says that I am to continually count (**reckon**) on these facts and consider them to be true (Rom. 6:11).

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org