

What is Your Spiritual Biography?

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Romans 6:8-11

Romans 6:8–11, *Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

For the true believer in Christ, your life is in two volumes:

- BC – Before Christ redeemed – You were in Adam (Sin's realm, reign, tyranny, captive). You were held by the tyranny of sin. Sin had the mastery over you. You loved sin, You lived in sin. You were dead to God (Eph 2:1-3)
- AC – After Christ redeemed – You are in Christ, no longer in Adam. You have been born again and placed faith in the gospel. Now, Christ is your Lord; not sin. You are subject to the Lordship of Christ. You are no longer in bondage to sin. You must embrace this change that has taken place in your life (Eph 2:4-7)

Our new life is solely based on our Union with Christ (Romans 6:1-7)

I. What We Have Experienced (Romans 6:8)

Romans 6:8, *Now if {since} we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.*

- A. This is a statement of fact (in the past tense); we have died with Christ.
- B. About this death (it is a spiritual death, rather than a physical death).
 - 1. It is in the past – God took us back 2,000 years ago and placed us in Christ (union) resulting in our crucifixion with Christ. (Have you ever been to Golgatha?)
 - 2. It is a completed death.
 - 3. It is a shared death.
 - 4. It was a real death.
 - 5. It is a liberating death.
- C. About this life
 - 1. It is a divine life
 - 2. It is a new life
 - 3. It is abundant life.
 - 4. It is a triumphant life
 - 5. It is permanent life

II. What We Must Know (Romans 6:9)

Romans 6:9, *We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.*

- A. Paul is repeating this important fact; repetition is the key to knowing. (Romans 6:4, 5)
- B. The results of the death and resurrection of Christ
 - 1. Death (sin) is no longer master.
 - 2. Death implies a life that is over.
- C. There is nothing else to be done, but live. The dominion of sin is over.
 - 1. No other sacrifice needed.

III. What We Must Understand (Romans 6:10)

Romans 6:10, *For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.*

- A. Important: Jesus died, but not for His own sin.
 - 1. Jesus died for our sins and its penalty.
 - 2. Jesus died to break the power of sin in our life.

B. "Once for all"

1. **Hebrews 7:26–27**, *For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. 27 He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself.*
 2. **Hebrews 9:11–12**, *But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) 12 he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.*
 3. **Hebrews 9:27–28**, *And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, 28 so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.*
 4. **Hebrews 10:4–10**, *For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. 5 Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; 6 in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. 7 Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.' " 8 When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), 9 then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second. 10 And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*
- C. "but the life he lives he lives to God."
1. **Hebrews 7:25**, *Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.*

IV. **What We Must Reckon (Romans 6:11)**

Romans 6:11, *So you also must consider {reckon – logizomai – count; credit; consider}; yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

- A. How many times in Romans has Paul instructed them to "do something?"
- B. Paul has laid a doctrinal & theological foundation for believing rightly (Doctrine & Theology must precede the practical {our minds must be renewed in right thinking})
- C. Reckon – count; credit; consider. The death grip of sin is broken in a believer's life and they no longer live and languish in sin!
- D. And, alive to God
 1. To Love God; pursue holiness; to worship God; to love others; to live righteously; to bear His image.
- E. In Christ Jesus – new life is only found in Christ. Period. End of story. Conclusion.

V. **So What?**

- A. We have assurance of salvation.
 1. This reality, dead to sin and alive to God, is transformational and the basis of our assurance of salvation.
 2. We have been placed in Christ (Death (v8), Burial (v4), Resurrected (v4b, 5b, v8b, v11))
 3. Do you see this change in your life.
 4. Romans 8:16 - no one can give you assurance of salvation. It is a change in our life.
- B. We have power of the flesh through the Spirit.
 1. We are dead to sin, your old man is dead, you have been raised from the dead
 - a) **Galatians 5:16**, *But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.*
 - b) **1 Corinthians 10:13**, *No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.*
- C. We can face our physical death with confidence.