

# THE EXPERIENCE OF THE CROSS

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# **Romans 6:1-11**

- 1. What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?**
- 2. By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?**
- 3. Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?**
- 4. We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.**

# **Romans 6:1-11**

- 5. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.**
- 6. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—**
- 7. because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.**

# **Romans 6:1-11**

- 8. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.**
- 9. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.**
- 10. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.**
- 11. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

# **Sin's Infestation of My Physical Body**

# Sin's Infestation of My Physical Body

- **Our instincts make us more susceptible to gluttony, anger, and improper sexual behavior.**
- **This is not to say, “I am not a sinner, it is only my body.”.**
- **It is not to say our body is, itself, evil.**
- **My body is created by God – good but fallen.**

# **Sin's Infestation of My Physical Body**

- **Our bodies are effected by the fall in the Garden of Eden**
- **Even after we become Christians we still age, suffer disease, and die.**
- **Our body's natural desires and instincts have malfunctioned.**

# **Sin's Infestation of My Physical Body**

**Romans 6:12** Therefore do not let **sin reign in your mortal body** so that you obey its evil desires.

**Romans 8:13** For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death you will live,

**Romans 8:23** Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly **as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.**

**HOW WE EXPERIENCE THE CROSS**

# **1. Jesus is Our Representative**

# **Jesus Is My Representative Substitute**

- **Jesus was acting on my behalf as my substitute and as my representative.**
- **He bore my guilt before God**
- **He was punished in my place**
- **His death fulfilled my obligation to the Law of God; I am no longer obligated to it. (George Wyatt)**

# **Jesus Is My Representative Substitute**

- 3. For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man,**
- 4. in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit. (Romans 8:3-4)**

# **I AM DEAD TO THE LAW**

- 4 So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God.**
- 6 But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code. (Romans 7:4,6)**

## **2. My Spiritual Union With Christ**

# **OUR UNION WITH CHRIST**

**4. We were therefore buried through baptism into death**

**5. If we have been like this in his death,**

**6. For we know that our old self was crucified **with him****

**8. Now if we died **with Christ****

**(Romans 6:4a, 5a, 6a, 8a)**

# **THE CROSS ENDS MY OLD LIFE**

- 1. What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?**
- 2. By no means! how can we live in it any longer?  
(Romans 6:1-2)**

# **The Cross Breaks The Power of Sin**

6. For we know that our old self was crucified with him **so that the body of sin might be done away** that we should no longer be slaves to sin—
7. because anyone who has died **has been freed from sin.** (Romans 6:6-7)
  
12. Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. (Romans 8:12)

# **Augustine**

- **Adam before the Fall: Able to sin**
- **Non-Christians: Not able not to sin**
- **Christians: Able not to sin**
- **Christians in Heaven: Not able to sin**
  
- **Christ in heaven: UNABLE TO SIN!!**
- **Praise the Lord! He wasn't ever a created being but incarnate God who has never and will never sin!!!**

# **3. Living in Light of the Truth**

# **A. Take Your Death Into Account**

**11 In the same way, **count** yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. (Romans 6:11)**

**To count , reckon, compute, calculate; to take into account.**

**This word deals with reality. If I take into consideration that my bank account has \$25 in it, it has \$25 in it. I am not just wishing it so. This word deals with facts.**

# **“Reckon”**

## **What This Means?**

- **He is not saying that sin has been eradicated out of me.**
- **He is not commanding me to “die to sin”**
- **He is not saying that “reckoning” (or “considering”) myself dead to sin actually makes me dead to sin in practice.**

# **“Reckon”**

## **What This Means?**

- **He is not saying we should pretend something is true that is not true.**
- **It means... Realize that you are already dead to sin because Jesus is dead to sin and you are in union with Him.**

**(Stuart Briscoe)**

# **B. Rely on the Spirit**

- ◆ **but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live**

**(Romans 8:13)**

# **John Piper**

**“Kill sin by the Spirit... The children of God hate sin. The children of God have the values and priorities and preferences and tastes of their Father. They are chips off the old block, as it were.**

# **John Piper**

**And the reason they share these traits of God their Father is because they have his Spirit who... gives them the new tastes and new preferences and the new values and the new pleasures and the new sadnesses.**

# **C. Offer Yourself to God**

- ◆ Do not **offer** the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. (Rom.6:13)

**Offer: Put at the disposal of. “Present tense, be presenting, denotes the daily habit, the giving of the hand, the tongue, etc.”—Vincent's Word**

# **Summary: The Experience of the Cross**

- **The experience of the Cross (Rom. 6:1-4)**
- **Sin's Infestation of My Physical Body**

# **Summary:**

## **The Experience of the Cross**

### **How We Experience the Cross**

**1. Jesus is our Representative**

**2. My Spiritual Union with Christ**

† **The Cross Ends My Old Self**

† **The Cross Breaks the Power of Sin**

**3. Living in the Light of the Truth**

**A. Take Your Death into Account**

**B. Rely on the Spirit**

**C. Offer Yourself to God**