

REF. MATERIAL

Reckoning the Old Man Dead Unto Sin

Question: Please give an illustration of how to reckon our “old man” dead unto sin.

Answer: The Bible gives 3 illustrations which very fittingly show forth the manner in which we are to lay hold of our death with Christ.

The **1st** is found in Romans 6:2, “...*How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*”

When we heard the Gospel of our salvation and that Jesus died for us, we simply believed it and were saved, being justified by faith. This additional truth, as set forth in Romans 6, is symbolized by **water baptism**. When we are baptized in water we identify ourselves with Christ in His death and resurrection. As we believed for our salvation, we simply believe what God has said,.

The **2nd** illustration is found in the latter part of Romans 6, where we are shown that we have been loosed from the slavery of sin through our death with Christ and have a **new master** which is **righteousness**. We are not to serve sin for we are loosed from its dominion. How foolish it would be to go back and serve the old **taskmaster** when we have been set free, as the slaves were set free at the end of the Civil War. God’s government has decreed our loosing from this old boss.

“For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”

Rom.6:14

We are to claim this freedom and serve the new master: **Righteousness**. Being filled with the Holy Spirit, we have the power within us to resist sin and serve righteousness.

The **3rd** illustration is in Romans 7. Our old head (Adam) is dead and we are **joined to another**, even Jesus Christ, who was raised from the dead. Once I did see a woman whose husband was dead and she was married to another who kept her first husband's picture in the living room. Today, many Christians do that with their "old man". But, if we will claim Christ as our New Husband, the fruit of our lives will be to God and not to death as with the old Adam.

By these 3 illustrations of our death and resurrection with Christ (loosing us from our old boss) He (Christ) is now our new Master (the old husband is dead) and our New Head...there is a provisional loosing in our 3-fold nature of spirit, soul, and body. In order to enjoy this loosing, we must, by faith, identify ourselves with Christ in resurrection. The Holy Spirit is our enabling; however, we must also be in constant communion with God through prayer because we can of ourselves do nothing.

“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.”

2Co.4:7

This is God's way of loosing us from the dominion of sin that we might bring fruit unto God.

