

Walking in the Victory.

Living Word Community Fellowship

Sunday the 5th December 2010

Pastor Peter Dart

2 Corinthians 5:20-21 (NKJV)

²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

- **We are truly called to demonstrate our true state as Ambassadors for Christ, and that is manifest in our lives, when we understand, that we are truly reconciled to God through Christ Jesus our Lord.**
- **Vs 21 gives us the completeness of our victorious state, freedom from all sin, substitutionary sacrifice made by Christ Jesus on our behalf, taking all, all, all our sin upon Himself that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**
- **That we might become...an appropriation...of the sacrifice. A realization that the total finished task has been done and completed in our favor.**
- **Last week I mentioned the fact that we must leave behind all that is of self, all that is not of God, all that is our will and ideas, surrendering everything to Him and His will. As such we live a life that is complete as Ambassadors.**
- **We are called in Him to walk this earth as spiritual giants, empowered by the total victory of the Risen Christ, for the benefit of mankind and to the Glory of God.**
- **The struggle we have in appropriating this is as we struggle with our most powerful enemy "Self"**
- **We must realize that it is our own 'good self' not yet denied that causes us to stumble at the prospect of living a totally surrendered life.**

- We are perhaps willing to have our ‘bad self’ crucified, not aware of the fact that the ‘good self’ is just as mischievous, for it is till “Self” and victory cannot be ours until all of self has been assigned to the cross according to Romans 6.

Romans 7:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells.*

- God wants nothing of self from us. Our desires of the flesh have no place in His purposes. Having Christ as our example in His total surrender to the will of God, even to the death of the cross is also expressed by Paul in the following and the key is contained in the very last part of this scripture: -

1 Corinthians 2:14-16 (NKJV)

¹⁴ *But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

¹⁵ *But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one.*

¹⁶ *For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ.*

- Victory cannot be ours until all of “self” has been assigned to the Cross according to Romans 6.
- God expects nothing of self but that it be crucified, which judicially it already is.
- We are not called upon as Christians to die to sin; but recognize the fact that we have died to sin in the death of Him, who, on Calvary’s Cross, put an end to the ‘Old Creation’, that in the power of His resurrection He might bring forth the new.
- Our old man was crucified with Christ, and in view of that fact we ‘reckon’...ourselves dead to sin and alive unto God.

Romans 6:10-11 (NKJV)

¹⁰ *For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.*

¹¹ *Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

- The reckoning does not produce the FACT; it simply springs from the FACT.

2 Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ *Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.*

- **Victory such as this seems to be almost unattainable to most Christians, a goal never to be reached here upon earth, however great the longing for such a state to exist in their lives, or however one might strive to achieve such a place in Christ. For they are not willing to believe what God says about the matter.**
- **How can they reckon themselves as dead to sin and alive unto God according to Romans 6:11? (Which is the Christian basis of a victorious position), when it simply is not yet what they see as fact.**
- **Many feel that they must be honest. To state such thing would be a lie. How can they reckon themselves dead to sin and alive unto God when it seems that every fiber of their being still responds to sin, when the world and all its pitfalls seems to master them, and the Devil and self in many respects are still masters in their lives.**
- **The wrongness in this thinking rests in the truth that God does not ask them to affirm something which they can believe to be true because they feel it and see it. It is not a fact in them.**
- **It is a fact in the eternal council of God.**
- **It is a fact in the divine economy of redemption.**
- **It is a fact in the consummation wrought by the Son of God on Calvary's Cross.**
- **It is as true as its twin fact; namely that Christ the Lord bore our sins in His body on the Cross. Feeling this later does not make it a fact, nor does believing it.**
- **It is a fact because when the blessed Redeemer died that shameful death of a slave and a criminal on Calvary. God tells us in His holy Word (and it is the focus of all scripture) that it was to put away the sins of the world.**
- **When the sinner believes and is saved he does not create the fact, he simply rests in the fact established since the foundation of the world, when, as we read in Revelation the Lamb of God was slain.**
- **Calvary was the visible expression of a fact already established by the determinate council and foreknowledge of God.**
- **So its was with this twin-fact of the Cross that is so insistently taught through Paul in all of his Epistles:-**

Romans 6:5-6 (NKJV)

⁵ *For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,*

⁶ *knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.*

Colossians 3:2-3 (NKJV)

² *Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.*

³ *For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.*

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)

²⁰ *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

- **We are told that it was a fact when on the Cross Christ cried out in a loud voice “It is finished” Not only was guilt dealt with; sin as a principle was condemned.**

Romans 8:3-4 (NKJV)

³ *For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,*

⁴ *that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*

- **In this we see the sin principle in you and I was crucified.**
- **You get nowhere in this question of victory until you believe it.**
- **This is not an attempt to deceive yourself into believing you are dead to sin and alive to Christ when your experience tells you something different.**
- **You are asked to RECKON (think, impute, count, suppose.) yourself dead to sin through Christ, because God says that He dealt with the sin principle in you (our Old Man crucified) when the Redeemer died on Calvary.**
- **Victory is already yours if you are a Christian, but you must accept it in Gods way and in accordance to His terms.**