

## The Life-Style of the Spirit

### Lesson #5

#### THE LIFE-STYLE OF THE SPIRIT - Part III - CRUCIFIXION

Scripture Lesson: Romans 6:1-14

Introduction: The average Christian trying to gain victory is like a man who returns home to find the bathtub running over. Frantically, he grabs a mop and starts cleaning up -- while the faucet is still *wide open*. Realizing he's making little headway, he gets bigger and better mops, reads books on mopping techniques, seeks advice from older, more experienced moppers.

The solution is simple. Cut off the water at its source. This is what Romans 6 is telling us. The source of all our troubles is *self*. Get rid of *Self* and your *sins* will follow. We've been busy mopping sins when we should have been mortifying self.

God's only way of dealing with the sin problem is death. When Israel sinned in Joshua 7 and suffered humiliating defeat, God prescribed death to the guilty party. In salvation God doesn't try to repair the sinful nature; it is incurable. The only way to deal with it is to crucify it. Realizing and reckoning on this is the Bible way to Spiritual Victory.

There are three key words in verses 1-14 that give us the STEPS TO SPIRITUAL VICTORY.

Verse 3, 6, 9 -- "know"  
Verse 11 - -- "reckon"  
Verse 13 - -- "yield"

#### I. THERE MUST BE THE AWARENESS OF A FACT - "KNOWING" vs 3, 6, 9

1. Our death was established at the cross - vs.6
2. Our death is expressed by baptism - vs. 3, 5.

#### II. THERE MUST BE THE ATTITUDE OF FAITH - "RECKON" vs. 11

"Reckon" is a present tense, indicating continuous action, hence, our constant attitude.

"Reckon" - a bookkeeping term, to regard, to account.

There is a :

1. Negative reckoning, which involves:
  - (1) Renouncing of Self - a "Not I But Christ" attitude
  - (2) Repenting of Sin - vs 12, 13
2. Positive Reckoning vs 11b, "alive unto God"

We are to reckon ourselves dead to sin and alive unto God.

III. THERE MUST BE AN ACT OF FINALITY - vs. 13 - "yield"

1. This is a once for all act - yield is in aorist tense. This, as in Romans 12:1, is to be a definite, voluntary act where the body and its members are placed completely at God's disposal.

2. This is an act subsequent to salvation - as in Romans 12:1, these Romans are already saved, yet Paul is calling upon them to yield themselves completely to God. This doesn't necessarily have to be subsequent to salvation but most Christians have never made a "once-for-all, never-to-be-repeated, never-to-be-recalled, surrender of their bodies to God.