

SET FREE FROM SIN & LAW BY DEATH

PART 5 CONCLUDING YOU ARE NO LONGER WHO YOU WERE

Before we start, let us affirm The Truths we've been sharing for the last few weeks ...

SLIDE

- *I am no longer the sinful person I was – I am now a New Creation in Christ Jesus.* (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- *When Jesus died upon The Cross my old sinful nature died with Him and was buried with Him ... never to rise again.* (Romans 6:4)
- *When Jesus rose from the dead my New Nature was raised with Him into The Newness of Life.* (Romans 6:4)

SLIDE

- *Spiritually I am now seated with Christ far above all demonic powers and the power of sin in this world.* (Ephesians 3:6 & Ephesians 1:20-21)
- *Even though my flesh remains in this world and may still fail and sin ... I AM NOT MY FLESH!* (Romans 6:6)
- *I am the righteousness of God in Christ.* (2 Corinthians 5:21)
- *I am hidden with Christ in God forever.* (Colossians 3:3)
- *I am dead to the sin realm and alive to God forever!* (Romans 6:7-8)

This statement is based upon what we have been studying in this series, **'Set Free from Sin & Law by Death'**.

We have seen that God has set us free from sin and guilt **not by taking sin away from us ... but by taking us away from sin.**

When Jesus was crucified, our sinful nature was crucified with Him. Galatians states this clearly –

Galatians 2:20 KJV

I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live; yet not I [the old me] but Christ lives in me ...

Spiritually, **we have died to The Sin Realm** and have become alive to God's realm.

Our born-again spirit is alive with God even though our flesh still walks and lives in this sin realm.

IT'S AFTER HAVING TAUGHT THIS TRUTH THAT PAUL NOW GIVES US **OUR FIRST INSTRUCTION** IN ROMANS.

AND IT IS ...

SLIDE THE KEY TO OVERCOMING OUR PRESENT STRUGGLES.

The flesh still lives in the sin realm and carries the afflictions of that old sinful nature that once dominated us. (*You cannot crucify The Flesh*).

Paul tells us what to do to overcome ...

Romans 6:11 NKJV **SLIDE**

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

SLIDE [MUST] RECKON – (logizesthe) = To reckon, **reason, decide, Must conclude**

NB This is where we get the word '**Logic**' from.

It's stating ...

Now that Jesus has procured our salvation ... and now that we have received and believed His provision of salvation ...

THERE IS ANOTHER STEP!

THERE IS SOMETHING WE MUST DO!

*Once again, this is **NOT** to try and crucify The Flesh.*

*This is **NOT** to keep on repenting of sin ...*

IT'S NOT REPENT ... BUT RECKON.

PAUL SAYS, 'WE MUST NOW COME TO A LOGICAL CONCLUSION'

You see, **your heart knows the truth** of what has happened to you spiritually ... but your Head still needs to be convinced and to believe this truth.

WE NEED TO BELIEVE MENTALLY WHAT WE KNOW SPIRITUALLY

IMPERATIVE

NB: The verb 'Reckon' is IMPERATIVE. It is emphatic. Paul is not just saying, *'Hey guys, if you want to improve your Christian life, here's something you can do if you want!'*

HE'S SAYING ... YOU MUST ESTABLISH A NEW MINDSET.

PAUL DID THIS HIMSELF.

2 Timothy 1:12 **SLIDE** NKJV

... I am not ashamed [of being a prisoner], for I know [heart] whom I have believed and am persuaded [mind] that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

Persuaded = I am convinced (pepeismai)

A primary verb; to convince, to pacify or conciliate (resolve, reconcile ... appease)

PAUL'S HEAD BELIEVED THE SAME AS HIS HEART

Romans 3:28 **SLIDE**

Therefore, we conclude [reckon] that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

THIS IS THE SAME WORD

This is an application of reasoning to conscience, affections, and will; such as is now developed by the argument. Cambridge School

Now, this is quite a task when you consider your mind has been conditioned to think the way it's been thinking for as many years as you've been alive.

Until you received Christ ... **your mind was an employee of the old nature** and has been trained to think according to the effects of sin, guilt and fear ...

Romans 7:5 NLT

... We were controlled by our old nature ...

BUT, EVEN NOW ... EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN & THAT 'SIN NATURE' HAS GONE ... THE OLD WAYS OF THINKING STILL CONTINUE ON ... THE OLD CONDITIONING.

Many, Christians now live with defeated thinking and come up with all kinds of ways to justify their fear and failure.

They say things like –

- **WHEN I GET TO HEAVEN, ALL WILL BE WELL.**
'He that endures to the end will be saved' ... OR

- **WE'RE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT ... NOBODY'S PERFECT ...**
This is our Lot in life in an unsaved world ... OR
- **I NEED TO TRY HARDER ... TO LIVE BETTER ... CONFESS LOUDER ... FAST LONGER ... AND BECOME BETTER.**

BUT THIS NEW TESTAMENT TRUTH IS FOR US HERE & NOW.
AND GOD'S SOLUTION FOR OUR DAILY FAILINGS & FRUSTRATIONS IS TO ...

Romans 6:11 NKJV

*... **Reckon yourselves** to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

WE MUST ESTABLISH A NEW MINDSET THAT KNOWS & BELIEVES NEW TESTAMENT TRUTH.

THE MIND MUST BE TAUGHT WE ARE DEAD TO THIS SIN REALM & ALIVE TO GOD'S REALM, EVEN **WHILE THE FLESH STILL FAILS.**

IT'S LIKE:

THERE HAS BEEN A CORPORATE TAKE-OVER OF YOUR 'SELF'.

SLIDE ADAM THE FORMER CEO HAS DIED & THE NEW CEO – 'THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH' – HAS TO NOW IMPLEMENT COMPLETELY NEW POLICIES IN THE NEW MAN.

SLIDE *The Heart catches the elevator to the top floor of Senior Management to make its presentation to Logic and Emotions ... and begins to reveal to them the company's NEW STATUS & STRATEGY.*

Ephesians 1:18 NLT

*I pray that your **hearts** will be flooded with light so that you can **understand** the confident hope he has given to those he called ...*

THE HEART SAYS, 'THE PREVIOUS OWNER – 'ADAMIC-MAN' – IS NOW DEAD ... AND NOW WE HAVE A NEW STATUS & NEW STRATEGIES!

- **From now on,** we need to adopt a completely new way of operating.
- We can **no longer accept those negative feelings** from the Old CEO.
- We will now allow **New, Positive Feelings** from The New CEO.
- Even though things may go wrong, **we are no longer going to react to these negative circumstances** but hold to New Positive Policies.

• *We need to develop a NEW TERMINOLOGY ...
NOTHING OF THE OLD MANAGEMENT REMAINS ... EVERYTHING
HAS NOW BECOME NEW (2 Cor 5:17)*

WE ARE UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT!

Ephesians 4:23 NKJV

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind [intellect].

Mid voice: I renew myself, renovate, reform

Romans 12:2 NKJV

*... Be transformed by **the renewing of your mind** ...*

MORE THAN MORAL FAILINGS

So this key is to overcome the failings of the flesh which are more than just moral failing ...

THIS WEEK I PUT ON FACEBOOK

*The Old Nature we inherited from Adam's sinful state, wounded us in every way ... **morally, mentally and emotionally.***

As a result all people have struggled morally, mentally and emotionally ever since.

NEGATIVE THOUGHTS & FEELINGS

So, not only did that old Sin Nature bring with it sinful thoughts of lust and envy and pride ... we were also afflicted with many fears and phobias ...

NB: THE FIRST THING ADAM CONFESSED TO FEELING AFTER THE FALL INTO SIN WAS **FEAR. (Genesis 3:10)**

FEAR IS THE ROOT CAUSE OF SO MANY DEBILITATING AFFLICTIONS WE STILL CARRY ...

SLIDE FEAR EXPRESSES ITSELF IN MANY FORMS

Anxieties ... worries ... concerns ... angsts ... nervousness ... tension ... apprehension ... inferiority ... insecurities ... timidity ... uncertainty ...

Even angry and violent people are most of the time fearful of being hurt ... robbed ... attacked ... killed ...

THESE ALL STEM FROM ADAM'S FEAR ... THE OLD NATURE ... THAT GOD NOW TELLS US IS DEAD.

THE KEY TO OVERCOMING THESE NEGATIVES STILL HANGING AROUND IN OUR FLESH IS TO **NOT FIGHT THEM ... NOT BURY THEM** (pretend they're not there) ... **BUT ... RECOGNISE THEM ... AND RECKON THEM DEAD WITH THE OLD-MAN.**

WE ALSO POSTED ON FACEBOOK

It's this Old Nature with all these wounds that God says we must Now Determine to be Already Dead with Christ and that we are now a New Creation in Christ Jesus FREE from all these wounds. It is God's Way for us to Overcome.

CONCLUDE ABOUT YOUR OLD MAN

DO YOU RECOGNISE THE TRAITS OF THE OLD MAN STILL WORKING IN YOUR BODY HERE?

WHEN GOD TELLS US WE ARE DEAD TO THE SIN REALM ... HE NOT ONLY MEANS IN A MORAL SENSE BUT ALSO IN **A MENTAL & EMOTIONAL SENSE. THOSE WRONG IDEAS & FEELINGS THAT SO EASILY AFFLICT US ... GOD TELLS US ... **'THEY ARE NOT YOURS ANYMORE ... THEY DIED WITH YOUR SIN-NATURE ...****

'NOW GET THAT INTO YOUR HEAD.

'THESE AFFLICTIONS DO NOT BELONG TO YOU ANYMORE!'

GET RID OF THE GOAT ...

We used to say, 'If a person gets on your goat ... don't get rid of the person ... get rid of The Goat.' **SLIDE**

About 40 years ago as a young Christian wrestling with many personal issues ... I HAD A DREAM ...

*In this dream, the pastor of the biggest church in Australasia at the time appeared to me and said to me, **'You have a spirit of worry and you're going to have to find the key to get free!'***

I KNEW IT WAS TRUE BECAUSE I WAS A NERVOUS WORRY-WART!

I NEVER FORGOT IT OVER ALL THESE YEARS AND SOUGHT TO FIND THE ANSWER FOR THIS DEBILITATING CONDITION WITHOUT SUCCESS.

Of course I tried all the usual Christian remedies ... I tried confessing scripture! I tried rebuking the devil ... I got prayer for it etc.

BUT deep inside, I KNEW NONE OF THESE THINGS WERE THE KEY.

*So for nearly 40 years I wrestled with this 'spirit of worry' without finding the key ... **UNTIL I CAME INTO THE GRACE OF GOD AND SAW THIS GOSPEL-TRUTH***

... THAT I HAD DIED WITH JESUS ... THAT AT THAT TIME, THAT OLD NATURE THAT HAD AFFLICTED ME WITH WORRY HAD BEEN KILLED – IT HAD LOST IT'S SOURCE OF POWER AND THAT NOW!!!! IT COULD NOT EMPOWER WORRY ANYMORE IN MY LIFE!

WHEN I STARTED TO SEE THIS ... EMBRACE THIS ... BELIEVE THIS ... IT BEGAN TO LOSE ITS POWER!

Worry still knocks on my door ... I still feel it at times ... But I don't run ... I recognise it ... I look it straight in the face and say ... THE OLD-NATURE THAT YOU BELONG TO IS DEAD! YOU NO LONGER BELONG TO ME! I AM DEAD TO THIS WHOLE SIN REALM WITH ITS WORRY & FEAR.

AND NOW HERE I AM ... ALIVE IN GOD.

I see it FROM THE REALM OF GOD ... FOR MY MIND HAS CONCLUDED WHO I AM AND WHERE I AM.

SLIDE

THIS IS A CONSTANT PROCESS OF RECKONING ... LIKE TAKING YOUR VITAMINS EVERY DAY.