

Know, Reckon, Yield

Romans 6:5-14

5 Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. **6** We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. **7** For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. **8** And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. **9** We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. **10** When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. **11** So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus. **12** Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. **13** Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. **14** Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace.

The incarnation of Jesus goes beyond His own death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and exaltation. His incarnation extends to those who believe in Him. We were closely joined to Him in His death (when He died, we died) and in His resurrection (when He rose, we rose). Now Christ is in us, and we are in Him.

As believers, we *know* something important about our death with Jesus: we know that what we were in Adam has been crucified. We also know that our crucifixion with Christ renders our bodies of sin inoperative, put out of business. Our bodies of sin (i.e. our flesh) no longer have power over us as they did prior to conversion. We are now *able not to sin*. We are not sinless, but rather are *able not to sin*. This is what we know, and are confident in it.

We are to *reckon* (to consider as true) that we are indeed dead to sin. We are commanded to remember that sin does not have strength over us as it once had. We also are commanded to reckon that we are alive to God. We are now awake to Him and responsive to Him. Whereas in the first Adam we were dead to God, now we are alive to Him. We can hear His voice, sense His presence, and experience His love and power. We must consider these things as true. It is essential for believers to reckon these things as true, because that is what it means to live supernatural lives as born again believers.

We must not allow sin to have authority over us. It must not reign, as if it was our master or king. We must not *yield* any part of our bodies to sin. Instead, we must submit ourselves to God, and each of our body parts to Him as instruments or tools that He can use for His righteous purposes.

God is able to use our mouths, our eyes, our ears, our hands, to fulfill His plans in us. We must give Him that opportunity, each and every day.

To summarize, we are to ***know, reckon, and yield***. These three words, and the concepts behind them, are extremely powerful. They lead us into the experience of the victorious Christian life.

Note that they are not optional for us; they are Divine commands. Our role is to obey as children of God, and bondslaves of Jesus Christ.

For Further Review

1. From this text, write down what we believers *know*. What are some implications that arise from what we know?
2. From this text, write down what we are to *reckon*. What are some implications that arise from what we are to reckon?
3. From this text, write down to whom we are to *yield*, and what we are to *yield*. What are some implications that arise from our yielding in these ways?
4. In your own words, write out a summary of *know, reckon, yield* as you might explain it to a new believer, or to a 10 year old child. (This will help you in your own understanding of these truths.)

