

Pastor's Pen

Romans 6:8-11

Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

When we think of something alive, what do we think of? We see things grow and move. Living things typically have colors that are more vibrant; some living things we see, eat and reproduce. Recently I visited a pet shop with my daughter and she could not get enough of a certain tank of fish. The fish were bright neon colors and they swam in a school. They had eyeballs that moved and occasionally you could see one dive to the bottom to pick up a stray piece of food. It's often easy to associate life with creatures and plants, but Scripture addresses our spiritual life.

According to verse 11 of Romans 6, we see that we are to consider ourselves dead to sin. What does this mean? Well often sin breathes, moves, grows, and reproduces in our lives. If we do not kill it, then it will spread like a weed affecting different parts of our lives and becoming harder and harder to uproot. In order to "consider yourselves dead to sin" we must cut it off at the root and do it as soon as we recognize it. We must do our best to remove ourselves from any opportunity to engage in that sin and do absolutely nothing to encourage its' growth in our lives.

There is a flip side to this though. Not only are we to consider ourselves dead to sin but we are to consider ourselves "alive to God in Christ Jesus." This means we do the exact opposite of how we are to treat sin. We should as often as possible give opportunity for our relationship with God to grow. This means godly fellowship, digesting His Word, memorizing His Word and speaking to Him through prayer. We will never float closer to God and further away from sin, it takes intention to both kill sin and love God.

The murder of sin and the flourishing of God in our lives is all made possible by what Christ Jesus did on the cross. Earlier in Romans 6, we see that we should count ourselves to have died with Christ and have been raised to new life with Him. Jesus died once for sin but lives eternal for the glory of the Godhead. May we remember that Jesus' death and resurrection provided us both the death of sin and life in God.

Pastor Jamie

Grace Gems

Let, then, thy soul by faith be exercised with such thoughts and apprehensions as these: "I am a poor, weak creature; unstable as water, I cannot excel. This corruption is too hard for me, and is at the very door of ruining my soul; and what to do I know not. My soul is become as parched ground, and an habitation of dragons. I have made promises and broken them; vows and engagements have been as a thing of nought. Many persuasions have I had that I had got the victory and should be delivered, but I am deceived; so that I plainly see, that without some eminent succour and assistance, I am lost, and shall be prevailed on to an utter relinquishment of God. But yet, though this be my state and condition, let the hands that hang down be lifted up, and the feeble knees be strengthened. Behold, the Lord Christ, that hath all fullness of grace in his heart, all fullness of power in his hand, he is able to slay all these his enemies. There is sufficient provision in him for my relief and assistance. He can take my drooping, dying soul and make me more than a conqueror.

Why sayest thou, O my soul, My way is hid from the Lord, and my judgment is passed over from my God? Hast thou not known, hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

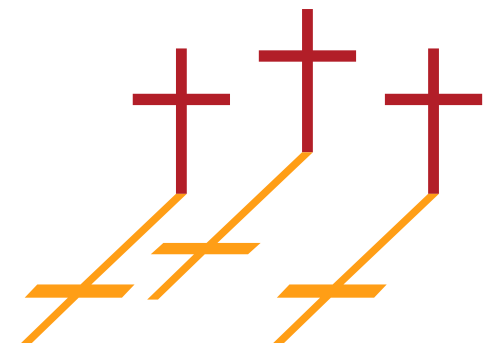
'Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint,' Isa. 40:27-31. He can make the 'dry, parched ground of my soul to become a pool, and my thirsty, barren heart as springs of water;' yea, he can make this 'habitation of dragons,' this heart, so full of abominable lusts and fiery temptations, to be a place for 'grass' and fruit to himself," Isa. 35:7. So God staid Paul, under his temptation, with the consideration of the sufficiency of his grace: "My grace is sufficient for thee," 2 Cor. 12:9. Though he were not immediately so far made partaker of it as to be freed from his temptation, yet the sufficiency of it in God, for that end and purpose, was enough to stay his spirit. I say, then, by faith, be much in the consideration of that supply and the fullness of it that is in Jesus Christ, and how he can at any time give thee strength and deliverance. Now, if hereby thou dost not find success to a conquest, yet thou wilt be staid in the chariot, that thou shalt not fly out of the field until the battle be ended; thou wilt be kept from an utter despondency and a lying down under thy unbelief, or a turning aside to false means and remedies, that in the issue will not relieve thee. The efficacy of this consideration will be found only in the practice."

-John Owen, Of the Mortification of Sin in Believers

Quote of the Week

"...be killing sin or it will be killing you."

- John Owen, The Mortification of Sin



Weekly Gatherings



Bible Classes

New Testament
Sunday School
Sunday Morning @ 9AM



Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM
Men's Bible Study



Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM @ Royall's
Every other Thursday @7PM
@ Patrick's & Cox's



Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study
AWANA @6:30PM-8PM



Service Times

Sunday Service 10:30AM
Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 03/28/2021

General Offering	8,109.85
Building Fund	328.35
Uganda40.00
Annie Armstrong	300.00
Total	\$8,778.20

Annie Armstrong Goal: \$1750. Donated: \$950.

Attendance.....225
Online.....17

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
Security-security@ghbcva.org



ghbcva.org | 804.561.3742
9821 South Redfield Drive, Amelia, VA 23002

Grace Harvest Baptist Church

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