

**THE WAY OF DEATH  
VICTORY OVER THE DOMINION OF SIN**

**Message Two**

[jkroberts\\_us@yahoo.com](mailto:jkroberts_us@yahoo.com)  
[www.pacolethillsbaptist.org](http://www.pacolethillsbaptist.org)

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Romans 6:1-11

1. Last week I introduced a series of messages dealing with “The Way of Victory”.
2. We saw from I John 5:1-5 that:
  - a. Those who are born of God overcome the world.
  - b. Those who are born of God overcome the world because of their relationship with Jesus.
  - c. Those who overcome the world because of their relationship with Jesus have a glorious future to look forward to.
3. There is a difference between stating a spiritual truth and appropriating that truth.
4. Many professing Christians can sing “Victory in Jesus” knowing that there is victory in Jesus, and yet there is little actual victory in their lives.
5. So how do we move from knowledge to appropriation?
6. What is the way of victory?
7. There are some things we need to understand if we are going to appropriate, or experience, the victory that is ours in Jesus Christ.
8. Over the next few weeks we are going to examine the steps to comprehending and appropriating that victory.
9. The first step to experiencing victory is to genuinely repent towards God and to embrace Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
10. Romans 5:1-2 tells us that those who are in Christ:
  - a. Have been justified by faith.
  - b. Have peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - c. Have obtained their introduction by faith into this grace in which they stand.
  - d. Exult in hope of the glory of God.
10. These truths define a Christian’s position in Christ.
11. Those who are in Christ have all of the resources of heaven at their disposal.
12. James McConkey wrote, “God begins His teaching on victory over sin with death—the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our union with Him in the fellowship and power of that death.”

**I. Jesus Christ not only died for sins, but He also died to sin. 9-10**

A. Death no longer is master (has dominion) over our Lord Jesus Christ because He died to sin, once for all.

NOTE: Up to the cross Jesus had a divine appointment with sin and death, but sin and death no longer have any dominion or power over Him.

B. Death and sin are still realities but not for Jesus.

## **II. Every believer has been baptized into this death of Jesus Christ to sin. 3**

A. We, along with Christ, have died to sin. 2

NOTE: We have a new relationship to God and to sin.

B. We have died to sin that...we might walk (habitually live and behave) in newness of life. 4

C. Sin is not dead in us, but, in Christ, we are somehow dead to sin. (We will talk about sin not being dead in us later.)

## **III. Every believer is commanded to reckon or consider himself dead to sin, but alive to God in Jesus Christ. 11**

A. This verse is an imperative command just like, "Thou shall not steal." (Present imperative)

B. The word translated "consider" or "reckon" is an accountant's term-credit the Lord Jesus Christ's death and victory over sin to your account.

1. We believe that if we are in Christ death no longer has dominion over us.

2. Why can't we believe that if we are in Christ sin no longer has dominion over us?

3. The life that Jesus lives He lives in unbroken fellowship with God, and in Christ you and I can live in the power of unbroken fellowship with God.

## **IV. The command to reckon yourself dead to sin does not mean that sin is dead in you.**

A. What it does mean is that the dominion of sin as master has been broken. See verses 6, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 22

B. "Therefore dead to sin does not mean that sin is dead in you, neither does it mean there is never any response to sin in you." McConkey

C. However, as we reckon we realize our victory.

1. Reckoning is counting upon a fact.

2. It doesn't call for understanding but practice.

NOTE: Paul constantly affirmed his death to sin.

a. "I die daily." I Corinthians 15:31

b. "I have been crucified with Christ; and 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 up for me." Galatians 2:20

3. When we reckon, through the faith that obeys, God will release the stream of His power that will make victory over sin a great spiritual dynamic in our lives.

4. Think or say something like, "On the strength of God's clear Word, I count myself dead to you (sin) through Jesus Christ. However conscious I am of your presence, you shall not have dominion over me just as death no longer has dominion over my Lord."

5. "He that is dead has his discharge from sin." 7

Illustration: A person discharged from the military is no longer under the power and authority of a superior officer even though that officer still has power and authority.

6. "But now being emancipated (made free) from sin." 22
  - a. The minute Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation legally every slave in this country was set free.
  - b. When Jesus cried, "It is finished!" He verbally signed God's Emancipation Proclamation for all who are the slaves of sin and in bondage to death.
  - c. The fact of emancipation is determined wholly upon the act of the emancipator. (We will have more to say about this idea next week.)

### **APPLICATION**

1. As Christians we may sin but not because we have to.
2. We sin because we choose to sin by failing to appropriate by faith our victory over the dominion of sin.
3. The question we need to ask ourselves is are we obeying God and constantly reckoning ourselves dead to sin, or are we giving sin the upper hand by accepting failure as inevitable?
4. Those who reckon will realize that a new power is at work in them-the same power that resurrected Jesus Christ from the dead. 4
5. Victory over sin should be and can be the norm in our lives while defeat by sin should be the exception.