

Romans 6:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Analysis

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord—logizesthe (λογίζεσθε, "reckon, count, consider") is present imperative, indicating continuous command. This is accounting terminology (used of Abraham's faith being 'reckoned' as righteousness, Romans 4:3). Believers must actively calculate themselves as what they already are positionally: **dead indeed unto sin** (nekrouς men tē hamartia, νεκροὺς μὲν τῇ ἀμαρτίᾳ) and **alive unto God** (zōntas de tō theō, ζῶντας δὲ τῷ θεῷ).

This is the pivotal verse of Romans 6, moving from indicative (what is true: vv. 1-10) to imperative (what to do: vv. 11-23). Sanctification involves bringing experience into line with reality through faith's reckoning. Believers don't make themselves dead to sin by reckoning—they recognize and act on the death that already occurred in Christ. **Through Jesus Christ our Lord** emphasizes that this new identity exists only in union with Christ—apart from Him, no one is dead to sin or alive to God. The full title (en Christō Iēsou tō kyriō hēmōn) stresses His mediatorial work, His saving mission (Jesus), and His sovereign lordship (Lord).

Historical Context

In Roman financial and legal contexts, logizomai (reckon) meant to officially register or legally credit something to an account. Paul uses this language for both justification (righteousness credited, Romans 4:3-11) and sanctification (reckoning

the reality of death to sin). This wasn't mental fiction but acknowledging legal fact. The early church taught new converts to understand their baptismal identification with Christ's death-resurrection as the basis for new life—catechetical instruction emphasized these realities.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does it mean practically to 'reckon' yourself dead to sin in specific temptations you face?
2. How is 'reckoning' different from mere positive thinking or denying the reality of temptation?
3. In what areas do you need to more actively count yourself 'alive unto God' rather than living in death?

Interlinear Text

οὕτως καὶ ὑμεῖς λογίζεσθε ἔαυτοὺς νεκροὺς μὲν εἶναι
Likewise also ye reckon yourselves dead indeed to be
G3779 G2532 G5210 G3049 G1438 G3498 G3303 G1511

τῇ ἀμαρτίᾳ ζῶντας δὲ τῷ θεῷ ἐν Χριστῷ
G3588 unto sin alive but G3588 unto God through Christ
G266 G2198 G1161 G2316 G1722 G5547

Ἰησοῦ τῷ Κυρίῳ ἡμῶν
Jesus G3588 Lord our
G2424 G2962 G2257

Additional Cross-References

Romans 6:2 (Sin): God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

1 Corinthians 6:20 (References God): For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Colossians 3:17 (References Jesus): And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Romans 6:13 (Sin): Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

Romans 8:18 (Parallel theme): For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

John 20:31 (References Jesus): But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

1 Peter 2:5 (References Jesus): Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:7 (References Jesus): That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Romans 5:1 (References Jesus): Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

1 Peter 4:11 (References Jesus): If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.