

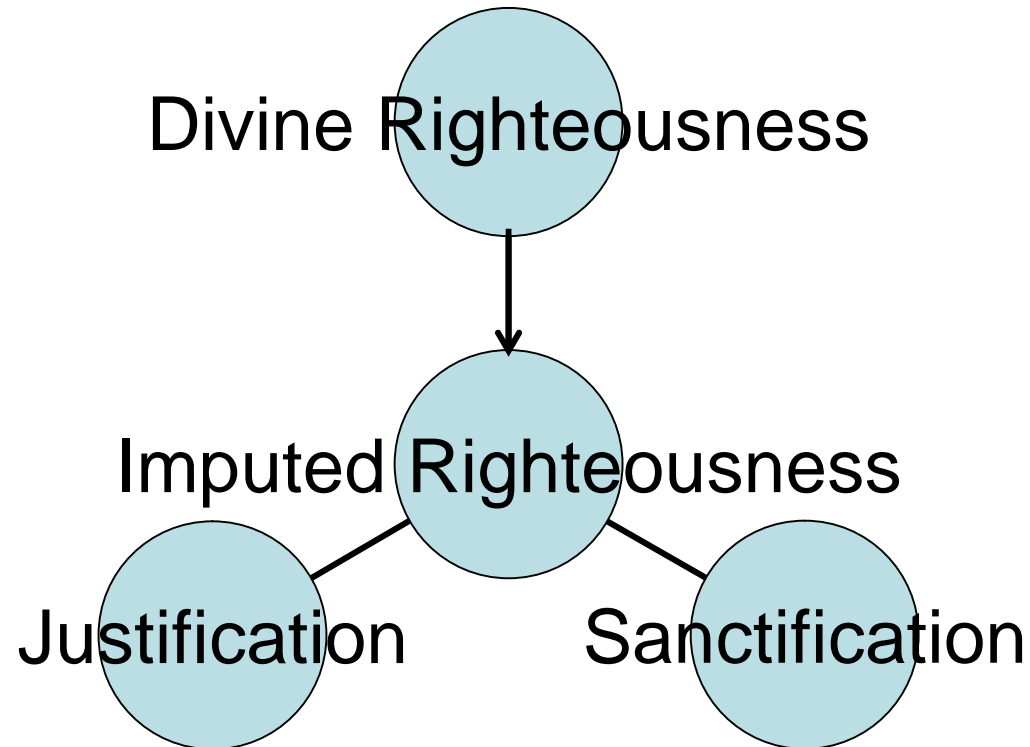
Reservoir of Righteousness 4

The Reckoning of Righteousness

Galatians 2:15-16 (ESV)

- “We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

Imputation of Righteousness



The 5 Imputations

- There are 5 Imputations referenced in the Bible.
- 3 are 'Real Imputations'
- Real imputations are imputations which have a 'home' or a 'target';
- 2 are 'Judicial Imputations'
- Judicial imputations are imputations which do not have a 'home', or a 'target';

The 5 Imputations

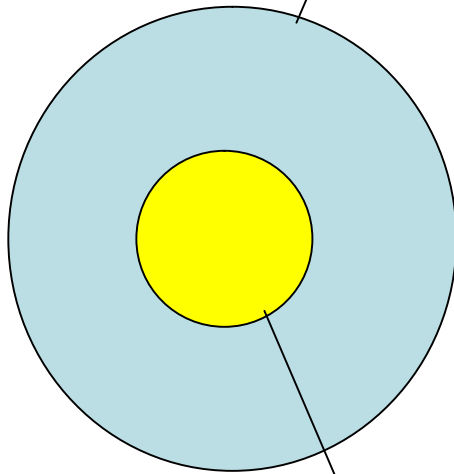
- There are 3 Real Imputations in the Bible:
- Real Imputations:
 - 1. Soul Life
 - 2. Adam's Sin
 - 3. Eternal Life
- There are 2 Judicial Imputations in the Bible:
- Judicial Imputations:
 - 1. Human Sins to Christ
 - 2. Christ's Righteousness to Believers

The Judicial Imputation of Christ's Righteousness

- *God made Him who had no sin to be sin as a substitute for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21)*
- *1 Corinthians 1:30 (ESV)
30 He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption.*

Acts 20:32

Them Which Are Sanctified



Them With An Inheritance

- “And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified” (Acts 20:32).

Reckoning: Introduction

- “There must be Spirit-dependent study and concentration on the part of the believer if he is to enter into the spiritual growth that is realized through reckoning.”
- Miles J. Stanford

Reckoning: Introduction

- *"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16, NAS)*
- "There are many ideas out in the religious world about what it means, and what it looks like, to "walk by the spirit".
- Some would say a man is walking by the spirit when he speaks in tongues or has some word from the Lord.
- Some would argue it is when he is being loving, kind, and patient with others.

Reckoning: Introduction

- Still others would insist it is when a man is studying his Bible, praying continuously, and involved in church-related activities.
- But, the Apostle Paul has another option we would be wise to consider.
- When Paul tells the Galatians that if they will walk by the Spirit they will not carry out the desire of the flesh, what is he saying?

Reckoning: Introduction

- Paul has made it clear throughout this letter that the desire or lusting of the flesh is to achieve justification through works rather than resting exclusively in the finished work of our Savior.
- This is the greatest temptation you will ever face.
- Every religious message you hear is grounded in Jesus plus something you can do.

Reckoning: Introduction

- “Nowhere is the flesh appealed to more than in the realm of religion and nowhere will you be more disturbed, troubled, and downtrodden than when the flesh surely fails you.
- Paul's solution to that dilemma is to walk by the Spirit.
- So what does it mean to walk this way?”

Reckoning: Introduction

- “If succumbing to the temptation of the flesh is foolishly seeking to be justified by law (Galatians 5:4), then walking by the Spirit is when you are living life convinced that you have been fully and irrevocably justified by the work of Jesus Christ...period.

Reckoning: Introduction

- “It is when your mind and heart are so completely settled on this issue that you are not compelled to do something to keep yourself right with God, especially when you have failed.
- Walking by the Spirit is not so much a formula for insuring that you "act like a Christian" as it is a heart and mind conviction that having been justified by faith you have peace with God through our Lord, Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1).”

Reckoning: Introduction

- ... the Galatians of Paul's day, just like those caught up in the same religious bondage of today, had been duped and tricked into thinking that they could actually work their way to righteousness.
- As they undoubtedly failed and failed again to attain their goal through the flesh (Galatians 3:3), the fear, condemnation, and anxiety they suffered must have been overwhelming.
- You too can fall into that trap from time to time by drifting away from the truth of the gospel.”

Reckoning: Introduction

- Jesus has succeeded on your behalf in bringing you to Himself.
- Rest in what He has done to make you right plus nothing.
- Not only will you then be walking by the Spirit, but you will also know the peace and joy that is the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22).”
- How To Know When You Are Walking By The Spirit by John Money Penny

Reckoning: Introduction

- Sanctification
 - Provisions:
 - Knowledge
 - Mechanics
 - Execution
- The basic elements of Reckoning:
 - Principles
 - Identification With Christ
 - Reckoning

Reckoning: Introduction

- 1. Principles:
- According to Webster, a principle is “the law of nature [or the method] by which a thing operates.”
- The *how* of reckoning is based on principles.
- Our Father works according to His spiritual principles to fulfill His purpose in our lives.

Reckoning: Introduction

- 2. Identification With Christ
- The truths of identification are those facts in the Word which reveal our identification with Christ in His death unto sin, and our subsequent re-creation in His resurrection.

Reckoning: Introduction

- 2. As foreknown believers, our Father judicially placed us in His Son on the cross—so that we died in Him unto sin, and are now alive in Him unto God.

Reckoning: Introduction

- 3. Reckon
- The word means “to regard as being, to count as true.”
- Romans 6:11 calls upon us to count upon the truths of our identification with Christ: “Reckon ye also yourselves to be dead unto sin, but alive unto God in Christ Jesus” (ASV).
- We count upon the truth that is made known to us; we exercise faith by resting upon the facts.

Who Dies?

- The following quotation from a message by Norman F. Douty will serve well to introduce the topic of “Who Dies?”.
- When we say [that we have died,] what do we mean?
- We do not mean that this life of the Lord Jesus has come in to displace our personality.

Who Dies?

- “When I speak of our fallen life, I do not mean the human personality as such.
- I mean the poison which permeates our personality, the poison *of* sin which has degraded and defiled and distorted our humanity.”

Who Dies?

- “It is not that this new life of the Lord Jesus comes in to take the place of our personality, to take the place of our faculties created by God, but it comes in to take the place of the sinful life which is operating in our personality and employing our faculties.”

Who Dies?

- “The vessel is the same, but the contents are different—the same vessel, the same person, the same faculties, but the contents different.
- No longer this sinful element, but the very holy nature of the Lord Jesus Christ filling, interpenetrating, permeating.”

Who Dies?

- “Our Father is not seeking to abolish us as human beings and have the Lord Jesus replace us.
- He is seeking to restore us as human personalities so that we may be the vehicle through which Christ will express Himself.”

Who Dies?

- “Therefore you find that whenever God gets hold of a man, instead of abolishing his personality, He makes it what He intended it to be.”

Who Dies?

- “Redemption is the recovery of the man, not the destruction of the man.
- And when the Lord Jesus in us is brought to the place He is aiming for, there will not be an atom of the old life left, but the man will be left—glorified in union with the Lord Jesus Christ.” - Norman F. Douty
- Miles J. Stanford. 2002; 2002. *Complete Works of Miles J. Stanford*. Galaxie Software

Reckoning: Introduction

- It may be helpful to observe the reckoning that begins our spiritual development.
- Whether it was realized or not, we began to “reckon” at the very beginning of our Christian life.
- As lost sinners, we were convicted of our need and shown in the Word that the Savior died on the cross to redeem us.
- By His grace we ‘reckoned’ upon the truth, and received Him as our personal Savior.

Reckoning: Introduction

- Reckoning is the Volitional Orientation Process.
- When you believe something, you 'reckon' it to be true.
- The problem is, as we've seen in our study of Romans 7, our life is not immediately set right.
- We are ignorant of the truths of Romans Six.

Reckoning: Introduction

- Most believers live in the futile struggles of Romans Seven.
- Some even follow the alluring experience-centered errors of the so-called “holiness” or Pentecostal/Charismatic groups to try to find a “Spirituality”.
- Unfortunately, while their motivation is sincere, their search is in the wrong direction.
- They follow a system of rules or look for signs and wonders for a spirituality, rather than the sanctification commanded.

Reckoning: Introduction

- The holiness group seeks a righteousness of their own doing, by following a set of rules to establish some sort of righteousness; sowing to the flesh to try to reap spirituality.
- *“Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect [mature] in the flesh?”* (Gal. 3:3).
- *“rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh”* (Phil. 3:3).

Reckoning: Introduction

- The Charismatic/Pentecostals err by clinging to the Corinthian model, unaware that they were only second to the Galatians in their erroneous understanding of the doctrine of spirituality.
- 1 Corinthians 12:1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware.
- 1 Corinthians 12:31- 13:1 31 But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way. If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. (NASB95)

Reckoning: Introduction

- There is no instant spirituality, it is a growth process:
- “The God of all grace, who hath called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect [mature], stablish, strengthen, settle you”(1 Pet. 5:10).

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- Everything that has to do with our Christian life, including the longed-for freedom from the power of sin and self is in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Through our spiritual birth in Him, we know Him in His person to be the very source of our life. “Your life is hid with Christ in God ... Christ, who is our life” (Col. 3:3, 4).

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- Failure when reckoning is certainly not failure of the truths reckoned upon.
- Without the Scriptures we would have absolutely nothing.

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- Our authoritative Bible is the only means in the universe by which we can ever know anything rightly and personally of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- Sad to say, even with the revealed Word, there is little enough of this all-important spiritual knowledge among believers today.

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- We should remind ourselves that the written Word was designed specifically by God to bring us to know the Living Word.
- Never for a moment is the written revelation to be by-passed, or slighted in any way.
- We are to study, meditate, and count upon it through the ministry of the Spirit of Truth, in order that we may know the Lord Jesus.

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- He is our all, *by means of the Word*.
- *“His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature.”*
- *“For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily”* (2 Pet. 1:3, 4; Col. 1:17, 18; 2:9).

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- It can be affirmed that the written Truth, authored and administered by the Holy Spirit, is the “vehicle” by which the Father and the Son come to us, and we to them.
- Still, as to reckoning upon the specific identification truths centered in Romans Six, nearly all of us *stop* at the written Word.
- It is as though we stand there, with a death-grip on a handful of truth, repeating with conviction: “I believe this is true, and I reckon, reckon, reckon!”

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- Much of the failure of our reckoning is due to *erroneous expectation*.
- We are not delivered by belief only in the liberation truths!
- Certainly we must believe and appropriate these truths, but the actual liberation comes as the result of our execution in fellowship with the Lord Jesus through the Holy Spirit.
- Simply put, the principle is: *liberation is in the Liberator*.

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- The reckoning that counts is made up of three essential steps.
- Most believers stop at the first, many stop at the second, but none can know the true results of reckoning apart from reliance upon all three factors.

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- Our freedom from domination by the sinful Adamic life was completed *positionally* through our identification with the Lord Jesus on Calvary.
- There we shared His death unto sin, and from there we entered into His life unto God.
- From this eternal position in Christ, our *experiential* freedom and growth are carried out as we:

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- (1) Know, and reckon upon, the identification truths. (Knowledge)
- (2) Abide, and rest, in our Liberator. (Mechanics)
- (3) Depend upon, and walk in, the Spirit. (Execution)
- Not just the first step, not even the first and second, but all three comprise the walk of reckoning!

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- (1) Knowledge: Know and Reckon
- When we first realize our identification with the Lord Jesus according to Romans 6:1–10, we begin to count upon these wonderful truths as we are commanded in verse 11.

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning:
- (1) Knowledge: Know and Reckon
- As we learn more of the truth upon which we are reckoning, our knowledge becomes a heart-attitude: I have died unto sin: I am alive in Christ unto God (Rom. 6:11).
- Although our initial reckoning may bring blessing, its primary purpose is to foster *the twofold process of growth*: “always delivered unto *death* ... that the *life* also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh [body]” (2 Cor. 4:11 italics ours).

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- (2) Mechanics: Abide and Rest
- Each of us must become aware of our union of life in the risen Lord; we are a branch in the True Vine.
- By means of this awareness we learn to abide.
- To simply rest where we have been newly created—in Christ.

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- (2) Mechanics: Abide and Rest
- Each of us must become aware of “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing” (John 15:4, 5).
- Not only is the written Word to be counted upon, but the Living Word is to be rested in.

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- (3) Execution: Depend and Walk
- The liberating principle is fully embraced by including the final step: walking in dependence upon the Holy Spirit.
- Deep within our human spirit He abides forever, and there, through our study, He teaches us the truth of our position.

Reckoning

- Three Steps in Reckoning
- (3) Execution: Depend and Walk
- As we reckon upon the truth taught, He applies the crucifixion of the cross to the old man, and ministers the life of Christ to the new.
- “Walk in [depend upon] the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.”
- “For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death” (Gal. 5:16; Rom. 8:2).

Reckoning

- Our reckoning becomes effective as we count upon the Word, abide in the Lord, and walk in the Spirit.
- The Father's purpose in justifying us in Christ and identifying us with Him is that we might be "conformed to the image of his Son"—"that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ" (Rom. 8:29; I Pet. 4:11).
- This is Sanctification, Life in the Reservoir of Righteousness.

Break Time

“Doing it right
is no excuse
for
not meeting
the
schedule!”



3 Steps of Reckoning

- 1. Knowledge of Reckoning
- Knowledge of scriptural truth must precede spiritual growth.
- For example, in the early chapters of Paul's epistles doctrinal truth is presented, while the latter chapters deal with the practical results of the truth set forth.

3 Steps of Reckoning

- 1. Knowledge of Reckoning
- We must first know what God has done, before we can count upon Him to “do.”
- *“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him”;*
- *“For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure” (Eph. 1:17; Phil. 2:13).*

3 Steps of Reckoning

- 1. Knowledge of Reckoning
- There is a crippling tendency among believers today to deprecate knowledge of the truth, and even doctrine itself.
- Emphasis is being put on experience.
- Truth reckoned upon fosters the only healthy and abiding spiritual experience.
- For faith to function, there must be Spirit-given knowledge of the Word.

3 Steps of Reckoning

- 1. Knowledge of Reckoning
- The Spirit of Truth ministers truth to us by means of our mind—the spiritual mind that relies upon Him.
- This knowledge gives us the facts upon which we exercise faith, or reckon.
- In time, through deeper understanding and a quiet assimilation of the truth: we not only believe, but now we know experientially.

3 Steps of Reckoning

- 1. Knowledge of Reckoning
- Paul had believed on the Lord Jesus for many years before he wrote, *“That I may know him”* (Phil. 3:10).
- Likewise, he urges us to *“Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all”* (I Tim. 4:15).
- For, as a man *“thinketh within himself, so is he”* (Prov. 23:7, ASV).

3 Steps of Reckoning

- 1. Knowledge of Reckoning
- It is the Holy Spirit who must teach us by means of the Word, “*comparing spiritual things with spiritual*” (1 Cor. 2:13).
- Paul states that there are some who have “*a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge*” (Rom. 10:2, ASV).
- We are to reckon and stand upon certain truths for our *foundation*.
- Linked with these are other truths upon which we are to reckon and rest for *growth*.

Knowledge of Reckoning: Foundations

- There can be no growth unto maturity without an established foundation.
- By knowledge of the Word we are anchored and rooted in the eternal foundation of our Christian life:
- *(I) Born anew in Christ: “Born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever” (I Pet. 1:23).*

Knowledge of Reckoning: Foundations

- (2) *Accepted in Christ* (our Father is able to accept us fully in His Son): “To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved” (Eph. 1:6).

Knowledge of Reckoning: Foundations

- (3) *Eternally secured in Christ*: “Your life is hid with Christ in God” (Col. 3:3).
- (4) *Positioned in Christ*: “God ... hath quickened [enlivened] us together with Christ ... and hath raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus” (Eph. 2:4–6).

Knowledge of Reckoning: Foundations

- It is futile to seek to grow by means of these truths—they are foundational.
- But it is imperative that we grow *upon* this imperishable foundation.

Knowledge of Reckoning: Growth

- Once we receive the knowledge by which we are established upon our foundation in Christ, the question of growth in Him is all but settled.
- The deeper truth, the spiritual master-key to all growth and maturity, is the fact that we are not only founded in Him, but that we are *complete in Him*.
- *“For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in Him”* (Col. 2:9, 10).

Knowledge of Reckoning: Growth

- As the Holy Spirit gives us the knowledge of our position in Christ, we are prepared to know Him as our *Life* (Col. 3:4).
- To reckon himself “alive unto God in Christ,” the branch must know the True Vine as his complete source of life.
- “*Of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption*” (I Cor. 1:30).

Knowledge of Reckoning

- Can we now see where failure begins in our Christian walk?
- We had the knowledge of the justification truths for our new birth, and upon this “milk of the gospel” we sought to grow and serve.
- But there was defeat, because the foundation truths are for beginning only.
- Further knowledge was our need. We knew the Lord Jesus as our Foundation, but not as our Life.

Knowledge of Reckoning

- The same problem must be avoided as we begin to reckon upon the identification truths.
- We seek to reckon ourselves dead unto sin without being established in the knowledge of the cross.
- The failure is further compounded by our seeking to reckon ourselves alive unto God in Christ without first being established in the knowledge of Him as our risen Life.
- We must be established in the knowledge of our foundation and source, if we are to become established in our reckoning and growth.

Knowledge of Reckoning: Position

- There are three pillars of knowledge having to do with *position* upon which the Christian life is to be secured and matured.

Knowledge of Reckoning: Position

- The First Truth
- The knowledge of our birth, acceptance, and security in the Lord Jesus Christ is the first pillar.

Knowledge of Reckoning: Position

- The Second Truth
- The knowledge of His cross as our cross is the central pillar.
- The cross of Calvary is not only the central fact of the universe, but also of the life of the believer.
- As we see our identification with Christ in His death unto sin, we know His cross to be our cross.

Knowledge of Reckoning: Position

- The Second Truth
- We need to know how we have been crucified there; we need to know ourselves to have been cut off from Adam and freed from the power of sin.
- Only from this pillar of knowledge can we reckon ourselves dead unto sin in our daily walk.

Knowledge of Reckoning: Position

- The Third Truth
- The knowledge that we are alive, and complete, in our risen Lord places us securely upon the third pillar.
- Now our reckoning can be fully established, as we count ourselves to be alive unto God in Christ.

Knowledge of Reckoning

- Now His life can be manifested in us by the growing fruit of the Spirit.
- This is the practical fulfillment of the very purpose of God for us: that we be conformed to the image of His Son.

Knowledge of Reckoning

Ephesians 4:11-15 (NASB95)

11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,

12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

Knowledge of Reckoning

Ephesians 4:11-15 (NASB95)

14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ,

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- Spirit-applied Reckoning
- “The Comforter, even the Holy Spirit ... he shall teach you all things ... He shall glorify me: for he shall take of mine, and shall declare it unto you” (John 14:26; 16:14, ASV).

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- *“The Comforter, even the Holy Spirit.”* The Lord Jesus chose the perfect designation in introducing the Holy Spirit as our Comforter.
- Even in our sin, He comforts us.
- True, He convicts us of sin—and Holy Spirit conviction can be intense—but He does so in order to point us to the Lord Jesus who is the propitiation for our sins, the One who ever lives to make intercession for us (I John 1:7; 2:1, 2; Heb. 7:25).

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- The enemy condemns us when we sin, and seeks to crush us under the weight of guilt.
- But the Comforter does not condemn; He convicts so that we might confess and be cleansed from all unrighteousness (I John 1:9).

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- All spiritual growth entails a *process*.
- We have an infinite Lord as our life, to whose image we are being conformed by the Eternal Spirit.
- Our dire need causes us to long for and expect immediate emancipation and newness of life as a result of our reckoning.
- To a degree, the Spirit complies with this expectation during our early encounter with identification.
- But He must bring us into the process of growth.

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- Through His purposeful dealings with us, our objective reckoning upon the truth becomes subjective experience in our lives.
- As we count upon our old man having been crucified at Calvary, and our having died unto sin on the cross, we become progressively cross-centered Christians.
- As we count upon our new life in the Lord Jesus, we develop into Christ-centered Christians.
- The path of the cross is the path of growth.

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- In our failures, we learn more of what *self* is and thereby come to hate the natural, Adamic life.
- Then it is that we are taught to glory in the cross, by which we are freed from the old life's influence, as well as the grip and lure of this *world*.
- *“God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world”* (Gal. 6:14).

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- Reckoning is the only means of escaping the entanglements of this world.
- It takes the separation of the cross, and our abiding in Christ.
- As the Holy Spirit applies the cross within, He takes us through difficulties and chastening.

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- We must face up to the fact that the cross has only suffering and death as its ministry.
- But when we realize that “always delivered unto death” means daily crucifixion, we begin to glory in the resultant freedom.
- *“Now no chastening [child-training] for the present seems to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby” (Heb. 12:11).*

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- If we are going to receive the benefit of the cross, we must go through the suffering of the cross.
- That is where we come to know and appreciate the Holy Spirit as our Comforter.
- He comforts us in the very crucifixion He applies, and we learn to glory in the cross that crucifies.

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- The work of the cross causes us to *“rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh”* (Phil. 3:3).
- *“He shall teach you all things.”* It is often the case that hungry believers, needy as they know themselves to be, are more eager for experience than they are for revelation.

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- They want a minimum of truth and study, with a maximum of results.
- But the more experience-centered they become, the less truth-established they will be.
- The penalty of this wrong emphasis is self-centeredness instead of Christ-centeredness.

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- The Lord Jesus said, “*The Spirit of truth ... will guide you into all truth*” (John 16:13).
- There are those who even go so far as to attempt to use the Spirit.
- They want Him to give them “power,” and many other self-centered “experiences” and “blessings.”
- The Holy Spirit does not respond to such unholy aspirations.

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- *“He shall glorify Me: for He shall take of Mine, and shall declare it unto you.”*
- In all the vital work of the Holy Spirit in the Body of Christ, His intention and purpose is to glorify the Son in the individual members.
- The Lord Jesus prayed to His Father, *“I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them”* (John 17:9, 10).

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- How is He glorified in redeemed sinners?
- Our new birth means that each one of us is a new creation in Christ, at which time the Comforter enters our spirit to abide forever (John 14:16).
- Spirit to spirit joined, we are “partakers of the divine nature.”
- At birth we are “babes in Christ,” but as we grow in Him we develop in likeness of life—thus glorifying the Son.

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- The Holy Spirit receives the life of Christ and brings Him into our regenerated spirit.
- For that life to develop within, He reveals to us the Lord Jesus in the Word.
- Thus, feeding on Him in the Scriptures under the illumination of the Spirit of Truth, the new life in Christ grows and is made manifest in our mortal body.
- We grow in Him as we allow the Holy Spirit to show Him to us.

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- *“We all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord” (2 Cor. 3:18).*
- In the midst of finding out about ourselves, we are to be especially aware of what we are in our Lord Jesus.
- While the Spirit must cause us suffering in the crucifixion of the self-life, He comforts us in our growth in the new life.

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- As we turn from the old man by reckoning upon the work of the cross, we turn to the new man in Christ by reckoning upon the work of the Spirit.
- Gradually, as we grow, there are less and less “works of the flesh” evident, and more and more of the “fruit of the Spirit” manifested in our daily walk (Gal. 5:19, 22).

The Holy Spirit and Reckoning

- Colossians 3:3 (KJV): *“For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.”*
- *“Reckon ye also yourselves to be dead unto sin, but alive unto God in Christ Jesus”* (Ro 6:11).
- But, a believer is reborn—a totally *“new creation in Christ Jesus”* (2 Cor. 5:17).
- And we are to, *“yield ourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead,”* and in dependence upon the Comforter to *“walk in newness of life”* (Rom. 6:13, 14).

Next Week

- Wanted Dead *and* Alive: Reckoning and Romans 6
- Romans 6:11 (NKJV)
Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.