

**Real Change:
If I'm forgiven, why confess?**

Romans 6

Genesis 3

Ephesians 4: 26, 27

What happens Sunday afternoon

Whose voice am I hearing

- a. My own, and I need to do some positive self talk
- b. Another voice

A journey of change:
Changing character, not behavior

I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Galatians 2:20

We died, were buried and resurrected

Romans 6

We were united (fused) with Jesus in His crucifixion, burial and resurrection

Our old self and our sins remain in the grave

Our new man was raised into newness of life

Physical baptism is symbolic of these principles

Our Spiritual Baptism: we were (united) in Christ

My old self was crucified, buried and rose
with Christ Romans 6: 3 - 8 *(ESV)*

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the father, we too might walk in newness of life

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For the one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

Consider yourselves - Romans 6: 11

So you also consider yourselves dead to sin
and alive to God in Christ Jesus Rom. 6:
11

Consider: an accounting term, Paul is not
saying “*think about it*” but “*add it up and
take it to the bank*”, “*count on it*”

We are dead to “sin” (the force of Satan) and
alive to God

We are new creations

Jesus showed us how to live “Christ lives in me”

Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

John 14: 19, 20

Jesus’s life was the Father living through him

“the Father lives in me”

Our sins are gone

Jesus himself bore our sins in his body on the tree
1 Peter 2:
24

The sins I committed throughout my life
were forgiven long before I was born

Our sins were taken by Jesus on the cross,
buried and left behind, never to be
remembered by God

Is sin important to me now? What does it do?

What sin did to Adam and Eve, it still
does to us (Genesis 3)

Sin causes us to hide from God

Sin creates shame and we isolate ourselves

Sin changes how we view God (*I was afraid*)

Sin causes us to want to work, to appease,
to make ourselves presentable, repent by
doing something (*sewed loincloths*)

Sin causes us to forget who we are

Sin gives the devil a foothold

Genesis 3: 7 - 11

Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree....?”

Sin changed them, not God

Their spirit became dead to God, alive to Satan

God came for His walk in “the cool of the day”

Cool of the day - wind - Spirit

What was the sound of God as He came?

God’s question:

“who told you that you were naked?”

Answer: the same voice that comes to me on Sunday afternoons, and comes to all of us

What sin does to me as a Christian

Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.

Ephesians 4: 26, 27

Opportunity: an area set aside, a foothold, a place, a room, a stronghold

sin as a specific action

Who told you that you were naked?

Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

1 Peter 5: 8

The accuser of the brethren Revelation 12: 10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.

John 10:

10

When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

John 8: 48

The accuser in action

Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.

Ephesians 4: 26, 27

I promise I won't get angry again

Then you loose it

What happens next.....

Voices start... “you...”, then become “I...”

Shame comes in, and I hide and isolate myself

“Who told you that you were naked?”

Our perception of God changes

God must be disappointed / angry with me

I have to earn His approval (and others)

Maybe if I read the Bible more, pray
more....

I forget who I am, and feel that God has
removed Himself from me

Motivation - condemnation - rededication

All because the devil got a foothold

What difference does Romans 6 make?

If my old self is not dead

If I believe I have my old self and my new self, and they are at war within me....

When I sin and the condemnation starts, I believe the voices (I have to, its me)

I believe the lies - God is disappointed or angry, God is distancing Himself, there is a pile of sin separating me from God

I believe if I try harder (starve the old, feed the new), then I can get back into God's grace

So, how's that working out for you?
(believing I have old and new self)

What about another way to see myself?

If I believe (consider) that my old self is dead, my new self is who God said I am (holy, righteous), then I can identify the voice as what it is... not my own voice, but the enemy

I (in my own ability) can never defeat sin, but when I let Jesus live through me ("Christ lives in me"), He can

Confession disarms the enemy

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1: 9

Our sins are forgiven and forgotten, why do we need to confess?

Confession is agreeing; we are agreeing that what we did was wrong, and reaffirming who we are (cleansed from all unrighteousness)

Prevents the accuser from feeding us lies

When I fail and the lies come

“that is not my voice, nor God’s voice”

“that is not who I am”

My old self is dead, I have my new self
which is alive to God, dead to sin

My confession has reminded me of the truth
of who I am and my relationship with God

My confession disarms the accuser

I cannot overcome this sin, but “Christ lives
in me” is able to

I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Galatians 2:20

As I live the truth that my old self is dead, and I allow Christ to live through me with His faith, His righteousness, His Holiness, I will sin less, and when I confess, the accuser can't defeat me through shame.