Welcome to “Learning and Living the God-centered life”

Carmel Baptist Church
www.learningandlivingtheword.com
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The four imperatives of Romans 6:11-13

1. **Consider** (logizomai) yourselves to be dead to (separated from) ‘the’ Sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

2. Therefore, do not let ‘the’ Sin **reign** in your mortal body that you should obey its lusts,

3. and do not go on **presenting** the members of your body to ‘the’ Sin as instruments of unrighteousness,

4. but **present** yourselves to God as those alive from the dead and *(present)* your members as instruments of righteousness to God.
2. Therefore, do not let ‘the’ Sin **reign** in your mortal body that you should obey its lusts,

“Reign” is basileuō (βασιλευω), “to exercise kingly power.” The verb is present imperative with the negative mē (μη), which construction forbids the continuation of an action.

So what does this mean for us practically in the Christian life?
This means that Christians are to;
Stop allowing the sinful nature to reign as king in your mortal body

Remember the facts in Romans 6:1-10;
The sinful nature is a dethroned monarch.

Therefore the believer has the responsibility of keeping it from mounting into the throne of his heart, the place which the Lord Jesus should occupy.
Romans 6:12

12 Therefore do not let sin reign (present imperative) in your mortal body that you should obey its lusts,

The question is does the word “its” refer back to “the sin” or to the mortal body?
As you study the epistles of the apostle Paul you will find similar wording that means the same thing;

- The sinful nature
- The flesh
- The deeds of the body
- Worldly passions
- The desires of the flesh and lusts of the flesh
Do you remember what we learned about how we are to treat the deeds of the body?

Turn again to Romans 8:13

Cross reference this with what the Lord Jesus said in Matthew 5:27-30

Do you understand the fight in your Christian life?

This is not about settling in and getting comfortable, this is about a real war!

The battle is against your flesh, and either you be killing it or it will be killing you.
Notice how Paul teaches these 4 imperatives. It is first about what we are to eliminate

Because for example;

A positive without eliminating the negative is like when I worked out in the field all day learning the HVAC business. When I arrived home at night I was filthy from head to toe even to the point Nancy would have to hose me down. Pretend we had dinner plans that night with another couple and I decided that I did not have time to shower and change the filthy clothes. What if I had simply put clean clothes on top of the dirty ones.

We would never think of doing this and we must not do it in the spiritual realm either.
First, “who you are in Christ” then eliminate negatives
Not only do the saints count upon the fact that the power of the sinful nature is rendered powerless (6:11)

But they will stop allowing it to reign as king (6:12)

And they do not go on presenting the members of the body to ‘the’ Sin as instruments of unrighteousness (6:13)

The verb is again present imperative with μη (mē), “Stop presenting.” The verb is paristēmi (παριστημι), “to place beside or near, to present, to proffer, to put at one’s disposal.” We are to stop putting the members of our body at the disposal of, at the service of the sinful nature.
The word “instruments” is hopla (ὁπλα). In classical Greek the word referred to the weapons of the Greek soldier.

Paul thinks of the members of the Christian’s body as weapons to be used in the Christian warfare against evil.

The saint, counting upon the fact that he has been disengaged from the sinful nature, does two things,

- He refuses to allow it to reign as king in his life,
- He stops putting his members at its disposal to be used as weapons of unrighteousness.
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God as from dead living and the members of you weapons of rightness to the God
Now the positive side of this theological equation.

There is really only one command in the Greek text but it occurs twice in the English text. The command is present yourselves to God and your members as instruments of righteousness. Again we must be careful to follow Paul’s instruction.

It is easy to think about the Christian life in simply not doing the wrong, but that is only part of the doctrine of regeneration and not the most important part.
The Christian life the apostle Paul is explaining here is not just refusing to sin, but rather it is presenting ourselves and our members to God as instruments of righteousness.

Herein is found the fulfillment of salvation. Christ not only provides the power we need in our refusal to sin, but also the power to do righteousness.
4. but **present** yourselves to God as those alive from the dead and *(present)* your members as instruments of Righteousness to God.

Now, the saint who counts upon the fact that the divine nature has been implanted, will obey Paul’s exhortation, “Yield yourselves to God, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.”

The word “yield” is again paristēmi (παριστῆμι), but in the aorist imperative, which commands a once for all action to be done at once.
Paul says, “Put yourselves at once, and once for all, at the disposal of God, as those who are actively alive out from among those who are dead, and your members as weapons of righteousness, at the disposal of God.”

This is a once for all act of the saint dedicating himself to God and His service, an act to be lived by, and upon the basis of its implications, moment by moment. The saint should live his life every day with the consciousness of that fact in his mind.
IN SUMMARY

Observation #1
Sin no longer has to reign and you don’t have to continue presenting the members of your body to “the”sin.

Before you were regenerated you had to present your members to sin because it held dominion over you. Notice that in order to sin a person need to use the members of the body.

Thoughts = brain
Gossip = tongue
Internet browsing = eyes
Physical abuse = hands
Observation #2

There is something to eliminate and something to accentuate!

Romans 6:12-13 tell us *HOW* to be who we are, by giving us TWO negatives and a TWO positives

**Negatives**
- Deny the power of sin to REIGN
- Don’t PRESENT the members of your body to sin

**Positives**
- PRESENT yourself to God
- and PRESENT the members of your body as instruments of righteousness to God
Observation #3 - from Martin Lloyd Jones

Did you notice the difference between the elimination of the negative and accentuation of the positives?

The reason for the difference is because the Christian can not present himself to sin as a whole person.

The most you can do as a Christian is to present one or more of your members to sin but only on a temporary basis.
But we can and we should present our whole bodies to God and then present our individual members to Him as instruments of righteousness

**Practical Application for today**
Lord in the worship service this morning I am presenting my whole self to you

And also I am presenting my ears, eyes, tongue, hands, feet and brain.

As you start to consciously incorporate this into every detail of your living then God will be glorified in you and you will be satisfied in Him!
Many of today’s notes come from: