

Dead to Sin, Alive to God

Romans 6:1-23

Key Verse: 6:11

1. Read verses 1-2. Where does the question in 6:1 come from? What is in the mind of a person who raises this question? What is the answer? What fundamental change takes place in a person when he becomes a Christian?
2. Read verses 3-4. What does baptism symbolize? How does the baptism of the Holy Spirit consummate the change in one's life? (See also Jn 3:3; 1Pe 1:3; 2Co 5:17) What does it mean to be baptized into Jesus' death? (See Mk 10:38,39; Gal 2:20)
3. Read verses 5-11. How does Christ's death and resurrection set us free from the power and guilt of sin? Why does death have no mastery over Christ? What does it mean that Christ died to sin once for all? That he lives to God? What does this mean to us?
4. Read verses 12-14. Is our battle with sin over when we are born again? How can we deal with the desire to sin? (11) What can we learn here about the nature of the Christian's warfare—both negative and positive aspects?
5. Read verses 15-18. What is in the mind of the person who asks the question in verse 15? What determines a person's real master? What does it mean to "wholeheartedly obey the form of teaching to which you were entrusted"?
6. Read verses 19-23. What is the difference in the downward progression and the upward struggle? How can we grow in holiness? Why must we? What is the outcome of each process? Why is death called "wages"? Eternal life a "gift"?