

Dead To the Law

Romans 7:1-6

¹ Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?

² For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband.

³ So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.

⁴ Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

⁵ For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.

⁶ But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.

THE BIG IDEA

What is the main truth The Lord showed you in this passage?

The Law and the Christian's Sanctification

Having decisively answered the question that salvation by grace is no license to continue in sin, Paul now addresses the question of how to live righteously. Though our first assumption may be that the Law provides direction for this, Paul affirms the Christian has no relationship with or obligation to the Law. In fact, he is dead to it!

Part 1—Only Until Death

Read Romans 7:1-3; Mark 10:6-9

- 1) What principle does Paul illustrate using the law of marriage and fidelity?
- 2) According to Mark 10 how did Jesus affirm marriage until death, and why is it logical that death releases the obligation of fidelity?
- 3) According to this principle, how might anyone ever be free from obligation to keep the Mosaic Law?

Part 2—A New Relationship

Read Romans 7:4; Ephesians 5:22-32; Romans 6:22

- 1) How would you describe the change in relationship described in this verse?
- 2) How does Ephesians 5 describe the relationship between Christ and the Church? How is that different than the relationship in Romans 6:22?
- 3) How do you think of your personal relationship with God? How would you illustrate it?

Part 3—The Law Brought Death

Read Romans 7:5; 1 Corinthians 15:56

- 1) How does the law affect the inner motions/passions of sin in those who are unsaved (in the flesh)?
- 2) According to 1 Corinthians 15 what is the relationship between the law and sin? How does this compare with your experience?
- 3) In your experience, can obligation and will power (as demanded by the law) enable your holy living? Why?

Part 4—A New Service

Read Romans 7:6; Galatians 4:4-7

- 1) How does service change for the Christian according to this verse?
- 2) According to Galatians 4 how does being redeemed from the law affect our relationship and service?
- 3) For which relationship is the law more appropriate: servant or spouse/adult hier? Which are you?