Romans 6 Jerry Bridges

- I. Introduction.
 - A. Text: Romans 6:1-15.
 - B. The setting of Romans 6 is important- it is connected to what comes immediately before and after it.
 - C. Paul is addressing the objection that some may raise to grace- that is, if we allow ourselves to believe in grace, what is to keep us from abusing it? (Romans 6:1-2)
 - D. There are several theories on what Paul means by "dead to sin."
- II. There are several clues within the passage that allow us to interpret what Paul means by "dead to sin."
 - A. Paul uses the term "dead to sin" as a response to people's objection that grace will lead to loose living. This was his purpose for using that term.
 - B. The Greek verb indicates that this is something that transpired in the past- translation should be "died to sin."
 - C. The "death of sin" was "in Christ"- in the same sense that Christ died to sin, we also died to sin. (Romans 6:10ff)
 - 1. Jesus was never subject to sin's power, though he was tempted externally by it.
 - 2. Jesus bore our penalty for sin on the cross.
- III. We are not to continue to live in sin as the prevailing disposition in our lives. (Romans 6:2-3)
 - A. Paul considers it impossible to have died to sin and still be living in it as the mode of our lives. (Romans 6:2)
 - 1. Through our organic union with Christ, we have died to sin so that we could walk in a new life. Victory comes not by dying to sin, but by living through Christ. (Romans 6:3-5; John 15; Galatians 2:20; Galatians 5:16-17)
 - 2. Our sinful body and nature had to be dethroned so that we are no longer enslaved to sin and can be justified. (Romans 6:6-10; Hebrews 2:14; Colossians 1:13)
 - a) We may still have the sin nature, but it can no longer dominate us.
 - b) Because we have been legally justified, the Holy Spirit can now indwell us. (Romans 6:7; Acts 13:39)
 - c) Since we died with Christ, we will live with Him. (Romans 6:8-9)

- d) Jesus lived to God. We through Jesus have communion with God. (Romans 6:10; Psalm 40; John 5)
- IV. Our application of this being "dead to sin" is to live free from the guilt of sin and to count upon God's grace daily. (Romans 6:11-14)
 - A. We have faith that we have communion with God because our guilt of sin is no longer there.
 - 1. The greatest hindrance to a dynamic Christian life is guilt.
 - 2. We are holy and without blame before God.

Application questions:

1. Why is it necessary for us to die to sin in order to live a new life in Christ?
2. What does it mean to have our sinful bodies "dethroned"? How does that play out practically it your life?
3. Why do you think that Jerry believes that guilt is the greatest hindrance to dynamic Christian living? How does know we have been freed from guilt in our relationship with God change our perspective?