## The True Baptism of the Spirit Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 6:3-14.

B. The question of this text is whether a true Christian can go on living in a sinful lifestyle.

C. When a person has become a Christian, something has happened that makes it impossible to live in habitual sin.

II. Baptism.

A. Paul is not referring to Baptism with water, but Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

B. It is impossible to be a Christian without being baptized by the Spirit first.

C. Water Baptism teaches by symbolism what happens with Baptism of the Spirit.

D. Through Baptism we participate in the death of Jesus. (Romans 5)

E. Union with Christ is the truth from which everything else flows.

## III. Grafting.

A. If believers die with Jesus they are also grafted with Jesus in His resurrection.

B. Christ is our life from the point of conversion onward.

C. Jesus was crucified that the sin in Him (Jesus was made sin for us) would be nullified.

D. We do not have to sin anymore as Christians because we have been freed from the body of sin.

E. The regenerate spirit cannot sin.

1. When we decide not to sin we have the power not to because of Christ's power within.

- 2. We are to count ourselves dead to sin and alive to Christ.
  - a. Sin does not have to be obeyed. Recon yourself dead to sin.
  - b. Christ's power is within to offer our bodies to God. Offer yourself to God.
- F. Sin will not have dominion over us because we are under grace.

## **Application questions:**

1. What are the different types of Baptism and how do they relate to each other?

2. What is union with Christ? Why is it so important?

3. How would you counsel someone struggling with sin in light of this message?