

SIN AND THE CHRISTIAN

OUTLINE

- 1) **Introduction**
 - a) The reality of sin in the Christian life
 - b) The impact of sin on our relationship with God and fellow believers
- 2) **The Inevitability of Sin and the Assurance of Forgiveness** (1 John 1:8, Rom. 8:1, 1 Cor. 15:3)
 - a) The absence of perfectionism in the Christian life
 - b) The forgiveness of sins and Christ's righteousness
- 3) **God's Faithfulness and Unchanging Love** (Phil. 1:6, Rom. 8:39)
 - a) God's commitment to complete His work in us
 - b) The inseparability of God's love and the believer
- 4) **The Impact of Sin on Communion with Christ** (Eph. 4:30, Rev. 3:19, Heb. 12:6)
 - a) Grieving the Holy Spirit
 - b) God's discipline as a sign of His love
 - c) The call for zeal and repentance
- 5) **Accountability and Exhortation Among Believers** (Gal. 6:1, Matt. 18:15-20, 1 Cor. 5:13)
 - a) Examining ourselves for sin
 - b) The role of other believers in exhortation and rebuke
 - c) Church discipline and maintaining the purity of the church
- 6) **The Judgment Seat of Christ** (2 Cor. 5:10, 1 Cor. 3:12-15)
 - a) Giving an account for deeds done in the body
 - b) The burning away of dross and the eternal reward
 - c) The importance of addressing sin for spiritual growth and testimony
- 7) **Conclusion**
 - a) Recognizing the seriousness of sin in the Christian life
 - b) Pursuing holiness and growth in our walk with Christ
 - c) Reliance on Christ's forgiveness and righteousness

Passages in Summary: 1 John 1:8, Rom. 8:1, 2 Cor. 5:21, Rom. 8:1, Phil. 1:6, Rom. 8:38-39, Eph. 4:30, Rev. 3:19, Heb. 12:6, Gal. 6:1, Matt. 18:15-20, 1 Cor. 5:13, 2 Cor. 5:10, Rom. 14:10, 1 Cor. 3:12-15, 2 Cor. 5:10

Passages in Summary

The given series of passages discuss the inevitability of sin among Christians, the forgiveness and righteousness granted through faith in Christ, God's unchanging love, the impact of personal sin on a believer's relationship with Christ, God's discipline, the need for accountability among believers, and the judgment seat of Christ for evaluating deeds.

The Author(s)

The key points provided are from various passages in the New Testament, written primarily by the apostles' John and Paul. The writers' audiences are the early Christian communities. The main theme is sin, its consequences for Christians, and the importance of addressing sin for spiritual growth and a strong testimony.

Location(s) and Events

These passages come from various books in the New Testament and address a range of circumstances and audiences in the early Christian church. The writings date from approximately 50-100 AD.

Time Period and Significance

The passages were written during the first century AD. These passages are important because they provide guidance for Christians on how to deal with sin, emphasizing forgiveness, God's love, and the need for accountability and discipline.

Key words:

- o **Perfectionism:** The belief in or pursuit of personal perfection, which is not attainable in this life.
- o **Imputed righteousness:** God attributes Christ's righteousness to believers, covering their sins.
- o **Condemnation:** The act of declaring someone guilty and deserving of punishment.
- o **Communion:** Fellowship or a close relationship with Christ.
- o **Discipline:** Correction or training to improve behavior and character.
- o **Accountability:** The responsibility to answer for one's actions or decisions.
- o **Exhortation:** A strong encouragement or urging to do something.
- o **Rebuke:** A sharp criticism or disapproval of someone's actions or behavior.
- o **Church discipline:** The process of correcting and restoring a believer who has fallen into sin through various stages of intervention.

Teachings

The author teaches that Christians will inevitably sin, but through faith in Christ, they receive forgiveness and righteousness. God's love remains unchanging, and believers should address their sins to maintain a close relationship with Christ. This involves holding one another accountable and accepting God's discipline to grow spiritually and bear a strong testimony.

Sin

While there isn't a specific sin to avoid, the key points emphasize the importance of addressing and confronting sin. Believers should strive to overcome sin and seek forgiveness, understanding that perfection is not attainable in this life, but that spiritual growth is crucial.

KEY POINTS

1. Christians will inevitably sin, as perfectionism is not achievable in this life. (1 John 1:8)
2. Trusting in Christ grants forgiveness of sins and imputed righteousness. (Rom. 8:1, 2 Cor. 5:21)
3. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (Rom. 8:1)
4. God is faithful to complete His work in believers, and His love for them is unchanging. (Phil. 1:6, Rom. 8:38-39)
5. Personal sin negatively impacts a believer's communion with Christ, including grieving the Holy Spirit. (Eph. 4:30)
6. God's discipline, a sign of His love, calls for zeal and repentance. (Rev. 3:19, Heb. 12:6)
7. Christians should hold one another accountable through exhortation, rebuke, and church discipline. (Gal. 6:1, Matt. 18:15-20, 1 Cor. 5:13)
8. Believers will stand before the judgment seat of Christ to give an account for their deeds. (2 Cor. 5:10, Rom. 14:10)
9. Addressing sin is crucial for spiritual growth and a strong testimony for Christ. (1 Cor. 3:12-15, 2 Cor. 5:10)