

Sanctification 101

Lesson 1

Sin

PART I EXPLANATION

Introduction: For a proper understanding of salvation and the Christian life it is necessary to understand exactly what we have been saved from; to understand the extent of the deliverance of Christ. Jesus Christ came to save His people from their SINS. Mt. 1:21 The Bible defines sin as the transgression of the Law of God. The Law of God condemns sin in thought, word, and deed. The great salvation that we have received from Christ delivers us not only from the curse of sin and the punishment of a holy God but also from the control of sin over our individual lives. We have been saved not only from the guilt of sin but also from the grip of sin.

When God imparts to a Christian the Divine nature at regeneration, it is with the intention of freeing them from the bondage and dominion of sin. Prior to salvation man is living under the power and dominion of sin, and is under the condemnation of the law. However, when a soul is converted, they are now under grace and freed from the bondage of sin. It is now expected of a Christian that they will not continue to allow sin to reign in their lives. For example, prior to the Civil War and the Emancipation Proclamation there were multitudes of people who were under the bondage of slavery. When the war was over and they were emancipated, many of the slaves continued to live under their master's dominion even though they had been legally freed. They did not realize the liberty they had received. So the Christian should not continue to live under the dominion of sin because they are free to now live unto God.

This is also illustrated in the Old Testament with the children of Israel entering the Promised Land under Joshua. When they entered into this life of faith, Joshua led them in victory over the armies of the land. At that point they were freed from the dominion or rule of the Canaanite nations corporately. However, when each individual received his inheritance he was expected to fight his own individual battles. He was still expected to expel the inhabitants dwelling on his inheritance. In the life of the Christian, Christ has conquered sin and death for us and put us in a right standing before God. Now we are expected to claim our inheritance by subduing the members of our bodies and not allowing our flesh to remain in control.

That is the expectation that God has for His children. An unsaved person, who has not partaken of the Divine nature, does not possess the capacity to live the biblical Christian life and therefore we should not expect them to. However, because of the righteousness given or imparted to a Christian there is an expectation of holiness and service to God. Each individual Christian has a different temperament and different weaknesses and infirmities. The Bible refers to these as "besetting sins" that continually hinder the growth and progress of the individual in their Christian walk. It is important for us to identify exactly what these are and to wage a spiritual warfare against them. Each Christian needs to learn how to "*possess his vessel in sanctification and honour.*" It is a danger and tactic of the Devil to amplify the sins of others and to minimize those in our own life so that we don't see the damaging affects of our sin. To have a proper perspective of sin, we need only to look at the cross, to see how God views sin. Let us ever beware of the exceeding sinfulness of sin and its effect in our lives. May God lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

Definitions: *For English use the Webster's 1828 Dictionary and copy all appropriate definitions for each word. For the Greek and Hebrew use a Strong's Concordance and copy the definition. The Strong's number is in parenthesis.*

English: **sin** -

Greek: (266) **hamartia** *ham-ar-tee'-ah* -

Hebrew: (2403) **chattaah** *khat-taw-aw* -

(817) **asham** *aw-shawm'* -

(5753) **avoh** *aw-vaw'* -

(7686) **shagah** *shaw-gaw'* -

(6586) **pasha** *paw-shah'* -

Quotation:

“Sin is the greatest evil in the universe. It is the parent of all other ills. All manner of evils draw their bitterness from this fount of wormwood and gall. If a man had every possession mortal could desire, sin could turn every blessing into a curse; and, on the other hand, if a man had nothing for his inheritance but suffering, but stood clear from all sin, his afflictions, his losses, his deprivations might each one be a gain to him. We ought not to pray so much against sickness, or trial, or temptation, or even against death itself, as against sin. Satan himself cannot hurt us, except as he is armed with the poisoned arrows of sin. Lord, keep us from sin.” C.H. Spurgeon

“Self-examination is the beaten path to perfection” William Secker

“Sin never ruins but where it reigns” William Secker

“Men compare themselves with men, and readily with the worst, and flatter themselves with that comparative betterness. This is not the way to see spots, to look into the muddy streams of profane men’s lives; but look into the clear fountain of the Word, and there we may both discern and wash them; and consider the infinite holiness of God, and this will humble us to the dust.” Robert Leighton

“Sin has the devil for its father, shame for its companion, and death for its wages” Thomas Watson

“As dogs have bones they hide and secretly steal forth to gnaw upon, so men have sins they hide under their tongues as sweet bits.” Thomas Goodwin

“A sheep may fall into a ditch, but it is the swine that wallows in it.” William Gurnall

“Men say of their sins as Jacob said of his sons, “Go, all but Benjamin.” Thomas Adams

Confessions (Look up and read these articles)

New Hampshire Baptist Confession of 1833

Article III The Fall Of Man

London Baptist Confession of 1689

Chapter 13 Of Sanctification - paragraphs 1-3

Spurgeon’s Catechism

Questions: 14-16, 19, 66-67

PART II EXPLORATION

Key Questions (*Answer in writing*)

1. In what three ways does the Law condemn sin?
2. What two aspects of sin has the Christian been delivered from?
3. What is it that delivers the Christian from the bondage of sin?
4. What does the Bible mean when it says that we are no longer under the law but under grace?
5. How is the Emancipation Proclamation an example of the Christian life?
6. How do the children of Israel entering the Promised Land under Joshua picture the Christian life?
7. Why is our body considered the temple of the Holy Ghost?
8. What does it mean to live after the flesh?
9. How and why has the Christian been freed from the dominion of sin?
10. Why can't an unsaved person live the biblical Christian life?

Key Scriptures: (*Look up these verses and fill in the blank*)

Judges 2:1-3 When the children of Israel entered the Promised Land they were told not to make a

_____ or treaty with the inhabitants but to _____ down their altars. Because they disobeyed, God promised that He would not _____ them _____ but allow them to be as _____ in their _____ and allow their gods to be a _____ to them. In the same way we are expected to rid sin out of life and not make allowances with it.

Romans 8:1-15 A Christian is identified as someone that does not walk after the _____ but walks in the _____. The Spirit of God has set us _____ from _____ which the _____ was unable to do. God sent His Son that the righteousness of the law might be _____ in us who have the Spirit of God. We are not to _____ in the flesh but the Spirit. The fleshly, carnal mind is _____ against God and is not _____ to the law of God. You are not in the flesh if the Spirit of God _____ in you. If you do not have the Spirit you are not a child of God. If the Spirit of God is in you, it is the same Spirit that _____ Christ from the _____.

Romans 14:23 When it comes to questionable practices in life, if we have doubts we should not do it. We must have _____ that what we are doing is acceptable with God.

Ephesians 5:3-7 Some sins should never _____ be _____ among the saints. Those who live in those sins have no _____ in the kingdom of God. We are not to be deceived by people who practice such things into thinking they are Christians. For those same sins is why the _____ of God is coming on the children of _____.

James 1:14-15 Sin starts with the temptation of our _____ and later produces _____ which eventually produces _____.

I Peter 4:1-5 We should no longer live our life to the _____ of men but to the _____ of God. We spent enough time in our _____ life living in excess and our old friends think that we are very _____ because we don't continue to _____ with them and they will speak _____ of you.

I John 3:6-10 Those that live in habitual sin are not saved. We are warned against being _____ by such people who profess to be saved. God's children are identified as doing righteousness. He that _____ sin is of the _____. Christ came to _____ the _____ of the devil. Whosoever is _____ of God does not live in sin because he has the nature of God and _____ live a lifestyle of sin. This is how the saved and unsaved are made _____.

Key Chapter(s) (*Read daily and summarize in your own words the meaning of the chapter*):

Romans 6:1-12

PART III EXPECTATION

Memory verse: Romans 6:12

Personal definition: *(Write a definition in your own words)*

Sin -

Personal confession: *(Study the confessions and summarize them in your own words)*

Sin -

Meditation question: *(be prepared for discussion)*

What sin has dominion in your life? (Consider taking on one sin a year to gain victory over)

Extra Credit:

Is anyone still under the law today?