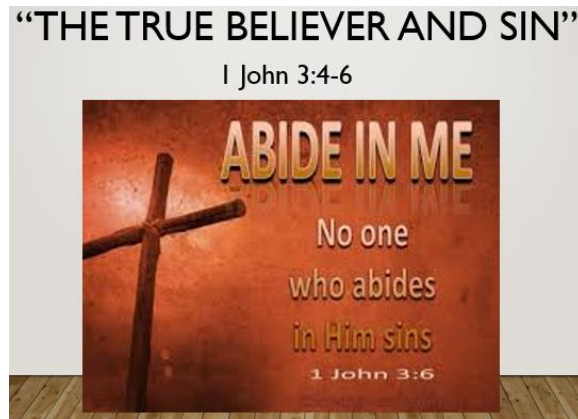


9/1/2024

A few years ago I heard Erwin Lutzer say this:

“Let me ask you a question, I don’t want to ask you if you’re saved; because you might answer that too quickly. I have a different question: ‘Is there evidence that God has done a miraculous work in your life that can somehow be

related to death to sin, burial, and newness of life? That, in the Bible, is the new birth without which, you will not see the Kingdom of God?’”



ARE YOU A TRUE BELIEVER? DO YOU REALLY KNOW THAT YOU ARE SAVED?

- This is what the Apostle John, Pastor John is addressing.
- Do you really **know** that you’re saved?
- Assurances of your salvation.
- Tests that really tell, verify that, yes you’re born again!
- Look at His love (v.1). Have you experienced that love?
- Look at your future, (v. 2) and the hope (v. 3)
- And now John develops this same point even further here in our text (v. 4-6) even v. 7 too.
- He continues to develop and explain:
 - A true believer does not sin... What? Huh? Wait we have questions...

TRUE CHILDREN OF GOD, DO NOT EXHIBIT A SINFUL LIFESTYLE! 3 QUESTIONS HE ANSWERS:

I. What sin is (v. 4)

A. The true nature of sin –

According to **verse 4**, sin is lawlessness, it’s willful rejection and active disobedience to the will of God.

KJV “transgression of the law” Greek word is $\alpha\nu\omicron\mu\iota\alpha$ – $\alpha = \text{un, -}$ $\nu\omicron\mu\omicron\varsigma$ = law or lawness

Now:

B. Our bent in the flesh is: inclination, proneness, our propensity to sin!

BUT: a believer will not, cannot, continually commit sin [present tense] makes a practice of, practices sin. (v. 6)

🔊 Turn over 🔊

CONSEQUENCES OF SIN! DANGERS OF SIN!!

- Sin always takes you further than you want to go.
- Sin always keeps you longer than you want (intend) to stay.
- Sin will make you pay more than you want to pay.
- Sin will make you do things you never desired to do; it will make you do things you never thought you were capable of doing.

Isaiah 55:7

Dr. E. Robert Jordan 1925-2009, - from message he preached 3/20/1983

II. What Christ did with sin (v. 5)

A. He came, manifested, appeared - To show, become our example, to live in our flesh.

The primary reason for His coming: to forgive, take away sin. Therefore, it is inconsistent with His redeeming work on the cross, for *anyone* who claims His name...to continue in sin.

B. To take away sins – therefore sin has no place in a believers life

III. How we keep ourselves from sin (v. 6)

A. The conflict – abiding/sinning

When you are tempted...will you abide in Him, or sin?

There is this: negative – (v. 4) *don’t sin*, because...

To: positive – (v. 6) so, *abide* in Christ...

B. The second conflict – we are free from sin!

The argument Paul makes in Romans 6:

THE 2ND CONFLICT (ROMANS 6)

Romans 6:1 – “What should we say then? Should we continue in sin so that grace may multiply, increase? How can we, who died to sin, still live in it?”

Verse 11 – “So, you too, consider yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”

Verse 12 – “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, so that you obey its desires.”

Verse 13 – “And do not offer any parts of it [your body] to sin as weapons for unrighteousness.”

Verse 18 – “and after being freed from sin, you became slaves to righteousness.”

CONCLUSION:

- Child of God: as much as we abide in Christ - we do not sin
- Therefore, when we are tempted - crossroads – will I live for Him or self? Abide in Him or Sin?
- Choose Him: - Do you know Jesus as your Savior? Are you keeping from sin?