

Scriptures and Doctrine :: A Question for Arminians

A Question for Arminians - posted by GraceAlone (), on: 2006/11/2 15:22

1 John 3:6

"Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him."

This seems pretty clear.

How can an Arminian after reading this verse walk away not believing that you cannot lose TRUE salvation?

I'd like to see the response to THIS verse.

Re: A Question for Arminians - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2006/11/2 15:34

An Arminian would put emphasis on the idea of "abiding." If you are continually abiding in Christ, then you will not continually sin. But if you are continually sinning, then you show yourself to not be continually abiding in Christ.

Re: A Question for Arminians - posted by enid, on: 2006/11/2 15:35

I'm not sure what an Arminian is, or what they believe, but I will look at scripture.

Hebrews 10v38-39 says, 'Now the just shall live by faith, but if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him. But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.'

Paul says in 2 Timothy 4v10 that 'Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world ...

Demas must have been saved at some point in order to have been a travelling companion of the apostle Paul. He would not have used any old person to proclaim the gospel with.

Salvation can be lost, and found again.

God bless.

Re: A Question for Arminians - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2006/11/2 15:36

The same greek word "abide" found in this verse is also translated in english in these different words:

AV - abide 61, remain 16, dwell 15, continue 11, tarry 9, endure 3,
misc 5; 120

obviously the main meaning meant in this passage is to: **to remain, abide**

to abide is to dwell, rest, continue. We are called to abide **in Him**. How can this be done? I would say in 3 ways: through the i) Word (abide in My Word). ii) Spirit (Dwell in you) iii) Love (abide in My Love).

Christ called His Church to "abide" in these things and thereby being different and called out from the world.

"Whoever" has quite a broad range in it.

I don't see any assurance of not losing salvation but rather a clear admonition from God of those that "Know God" and are "in" Him. So I would say simply if you are found "abiding in Him" then you are saved.

Re: A Question for Arminians - posted by JFEdgar (), on: 2006/11/2 15:52

Do YOU sin?

What is YOUR response to this verse? That is probably what God is more concerned about with you, at the moment.

Let Him deal with those pesky arminians (;-) himself.

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2006/11/2 16:51

Quote:

JFEdgar wrote:

Let Him deal with those pesky arminians (;-) himself.

I guess we were just predestined to be this way...

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2006/11/3 9:52

Not being an Arminian I don't feel qualified to answer this question. Arminius was far too Calvinist for my tastes. ;-)

Re: - posted by death2self (), on: 2006/11/3 10:35

I've never heard the verse cited as a proof of eternal security. Obviously we cannot be a Christian if we choose to hold onto sin but that wouldn't prove eternal security.

Here's a link to some very insightful comments on 1 John written by a preacher named R.L. Lavender (<http://www.crisispub.com/atonement/john.htm#exp1jn18>) 1 John) His father Malcolm has written a wonderful book entitled "The Fallacy of the Sinning Christian" and excerpts from the book are available on the site.

Here's what several of the early church fathers said about "a sinning Christian."

Hermas, A.D. 148 (?), says: "He said to me, 'You have heard correctly, for that is so. For he who has received remission of sin ought never to sin again, but to live in purity. . . .'" The Shepherd of Hermas, MAND IV. iii.2.

Justin Martyr, A.D. 155 (?), Dialogue with Trypho, says: "To acknowledge this Christ, to be washed in the fountain spoken of by Isaiah for the remission of sins, and henceforth to live without sin." Charles Ewing Brown, The Apostolic Church, Anderson, Indiana: The Warner Press, 1947, p. 71

Irenaeus, About A.D. 185, says: " . . . and through obedience doing away with disobedience completely: for He bound the strong man, and set free the weak, and endowed His own handiwork with salvation, by destroying sin." Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book III. CHAP. XVIII.6.

Re:, on: 2006/11/3 15:05

Many people misunderstand the book of 1 John. I'm not claiming to understand any of it, I could misunderstand and have misunderstood much.

However when someone asks me whether I sin or not, it's usually because the people asking me want a confirmation for themselves to sin.

If I say, "Yes," they will have no problem and nothing changes with them. If I say "No," they think I'm a heretic or I'm crazy.

The correct answer to the question that they ask me is "No."

Do I sin?

No

Will I sin as a Christian?

No

What about 1 John 1:8, 'If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us'?

I didn't say I have no sin, I said I don't sin and I will not sin.

Scripture says plainly, 'We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him' - 1 John 5:18

Now it does not insist upon habitual sin, if it did, John would have wrote that and you think yourself to be a better writer than God. Reading that verse, as it is, does not contradict the rest of what John wrote.

John wrote some pretty extreme things in this letter. Again, don't pull out your greek or commentary's but read this next thing he says as it is. John says, '...Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him' - 1 John 3:6 So what does that mean? Its like John is saying this: Little children, have you seen the same Christ I've seen? Can you see the Christ? If you see Him you cannot gaze upon Him and at the same time your hands perform sin.

Now I have sinned after becoming a Christian, does this mean I'm no longer a Christian? No.

1 John 2:1 says '...these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.'

I'm not speaking of sinless perfection but I won't say becoming sinless is impossible in this life. When talking of these things I say what Leonard Ravenhill said, 'Its not impossible to sin, its possible not to sin.'

However, dotting all the i's and crossing all the T's as Paul Washer said, that isn't what being a Christian means. Eternal life is to know God and Jesus Christ whom He sent. That is the summary of what I've written here.

I'll say one last thing and then I got to go but you can abstain from sin and still go to hell. Unless Christ is your Treasure, unless God is all that you want, all that you have, unless you walk in that reality, your abstaining from sins means nothing. You abstain from sin so that you can separate yourself to God and the reason why you want to separate yourself to God in the first place is because you love God and before you love God, He has loved you. Love is the very root of all that a Christian should be and everything, from abstaining from sins, to eating, to talking, to all things should flow from love, from God to His glory.

And again, christianity isn't a sinning and repenting business. Eternal life is to know Him! When you know the real Christ, you cannot sin as John said! Its impossible! See the Christ and then go on a sin, no my friend, you have seen a counterfeit Christ. Fix your eyes upon the Jesus Christ of the Bible and everything else takes care of itself.

Paul Mcgrade

Re: - posted by GaryE (), on: 2006/11/3 21:01

{quote} PreachParsley

I guess we were just predestined to be this way...

{quote} Philogos

Not being an Arminian I don't feel qualified to answer this question. Arminius was far too Calvinist for my tastes.

.....

I couldn't help but laugh over those comments.

Re: A Question for Arminians - posted by CJaKfOrEsT (), on: 2006/11/4 0:35

The only answer that I can offer to those who can't work out whether we are saved because God had already chosen us, or have a salvation that is conditional upon our choice to repent, and put our trust in Christ, is...Yes!!;-)

Re: A Question for Arminians, on: 2006/11/4 14:34

A true saint cannot loose salvation because "He who has begun a good work will finish it" (1 Phillipians 1:6).

One may serve Christ for 60 years, fall away and go to hell because he was never saved in the first place. You can run on the gas of your wicked heart for quite a long time. Add logs to the blaze of your pride or the blaze of your ego or the blaze of your hypocrisy.

Though a true believer will never fall away, many false brethren will and it will appear to be that a true believer can fall away but that is not the case. God has never started a work in the ones who fall away. Evidence of that is their falling away.

Some of you think God is so incapable of trespassing on your "free-will territory." If God wanted to save you He would save you. He'll be the only One who saves if you are to be saved. Scripture says,

"I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion."

God is not a unjust tyrant. He does this so that you'll be poor in spirit and not think yourself to have one thing but Him. This is why you must plead for Him to save you, this is why the gate is narrow, this is why there are few who find life because you must go low as to be poor in spirit. To be humble and lowly and to cry out to God to save you because you have no other means to be saved from His wrath.

Paul Mcgrade

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2006/11/4 16:12

Can we loose our first birthing, mom and dad? Yes, we all die.

Can we loose our second birthing? Spiritual birth by God with Christ in you? No, Christ will never die again.

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Rom 5:17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

Rom 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Rom 8:10 And if Christ in you, the body dead because of sin; but the Spirit life because of righteousness.

1Cr 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Phl 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether by life, or by death.

Phl 2:16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

Col 3:3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Col 3:4 When Christ, our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

1Ti 1:16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

2Ti 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus,

1Jo 5:20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

Since in the Spirit our new life in Christ Jesus is not of ourselves, but of God, How could we possibly lose so great a salvation, not possible with God.

In the flesh, I can lose my salvation because it was not mine in the first place.

In Christ: Phillip

Re: - posted by CJaKfOrEsT (), on: 2006/11/5 8:10

Quote:

Christinyou wrote:

Can we lose our first birthing, mom and dad? Yes, we all die.

Can we lose our second birthing? Spiritual birth by God with Christ in you? No, Christ will never die again.

Phillip,

How do you account for the fact that majority of the references to the Lamb's Book of Life, bare warnings that involve having your names blotted out?

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2006/11/5 15:57

Rev 3:5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

Why will He confess our name before the Father? Because we confess His name. To all those that believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, revealed to each one like Peter, Thou art the Son of the Living God, our revelation and Rock of our foundation of the Bride of Christ, the Church His Body.

The Lamb died for all the world and the sin thereof, so that puts all in the Lamb's book of Life, but if we don't believe then the names are blotted out of the Book of Life. This is the Lamb's foundation of His Church. Jhn 20:31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

This is the Rock of His foundation for His Church the Body of Christ, straight from Peter, whom the Father has revealed to Peter not flesh and blood. Mat 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

The Book of Life is for all those that will come, but all would not and their names are blotted out of the Book.

You cannot lose your salvation by being blotted out of the Book, It is God who has sealed the Book not man. We cannot get in the Book unless God puts us there and those are His that He gives to the Lamb as His Bride. Jesus Christ will bring His Bride to His Father's House. He only lost one, that was Judas to fulfill scripture. He will not lose any more that the Father gives Him.

"Can we loose our second birthing? Spiritual birth by God with Christ in you? No, Christ will never die again."

He will never leave us and we that are born again are sealed and the sealer will never break the seal in Christ.

In Christ:

Re: - posted by CJaKfOrEsT (), on: 2006/11/6 6:05

Quote:

Christinyou wrote:

Rev 3:5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

.....

You cannot loose your salvation by being blotted out of the Book, It is God who has sealed the Book not man. We cannot get in the Book unless God puts us there and those are His that He gives to the Lamb as His Bride. Jesus Christ will bring His Bride to His Father's House. He only lost one, that was Judas to fulfill scripture. He will not loose any more that the Father gives Him.

While I hear what you are saying, considering that it is Christ that is threatening to blot out the names of those who do not overcome (which could probably be read, 'endure until the end'), then doesn't it stand to reason that one can 'lose' his salvation, as a result of not overcoming, by Christ Himself blotting out our name?

Perhaps even this could be tied to the idea of being "more than a conqueror" (conquerer/overcomer: same root Greek word 'nikao') in Romans, noting that it is "in all these things" that we are "more than conquerors". Note that the "all these things" are various forms of suffering, so then perhaps this "overcoming" is a reference to "taking up one's cross", which is the condition of being Christ's disciple.

Perhaps it is those who refuse to "taste death" until Christ returns, who will be blotted out. In defence of Phillip's assertion, it could be said that the one who hasn't taken up his cross, was never Christ's disciple, in reality, and therefore had no salvation to lose, but is it possible to put down the cross, after picking it up? Perhaps this could be an allusion to putting one's hand to the plow and looking back?

Either way, I for one don't want to risk being blotted out, and don't believe that Christ would dish out such a warning (which is addressed to the church, not the world) without there being cause for the church to heed it?

But that's just me.

Hmmm....

Re: - posted by GraceAlone (), on: 2006/11/8 16:08

1 John 3:6

"Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him."

Why I started this post was for an answer to this verse which clearly states that if you're living in sin you are lost and have never been saved. Logically concluding to the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints.

Are there any refutations to THIS very verse?

Is there an answer to this verse or are all Christians to be subject to this verse and the doctrine which arises from it?

Re: - posted by blinx (), on: 2006/11/15 6:24

"A true saint cannot loose salvation"

Hebrews 6:4-6 says:

For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

5And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

6If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

Romans 11:20-22 (King James Version) says:

20Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear:

21For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee.

22Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.

A christian (who stands by faith) can be cut off.

Re: - posted by CJaKfOrEsT (), on: 2006/11/15 6:37

May I suggest Keith Daniel's sermon on (<https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/mydownloads/singlefile.php?lid7169>) The First Epistle of John - part 1 and (<https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/mydownloads/singlefile.php?lid7170>) Part 2 ? Has been a while since I've heard this, but I know that it helped me to put this issue to bed. Basically the message is raw Bible with commentary interspersed. He backs up his every claim, and admits areas that he is unclear on.

One thing that I would consider, and this is similar logic to what Jesus presented to Nichodemus:

Do you sin? If that is the case then does that mean that you aren't saved? If that is the case then doesn't that mean that you are in darkness? If that is so, then doesn't that mean that you have not seen the Kingdom of God? If that is so, then doesn't that mean that you are not qualified to comment on this verse, unquickened by the Holy Spirit? If that is the case, then doesn't that mean that you can disregard the consequences of your interpretation? Oops...then if that is the case, then the whole thing applies again...go back to the start...Do you sin...?

Re: - posted by CJaKfOrEsT (), on: 2006/11/15 6:43

Quote:

blinx wrote:

Quote:

----- "A true saint cannot loose salvation"

Hebrews 6:4-6 says:

For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

5And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

6If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame

Romans 11:20-22 (King James Version) says:

20Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear:

21For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee.

22Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: other wise thou also shalt be cut off.

A christian (who stands by faith) can be cut off.

Interestingly, the sermons that I have posted speak right to the heart of both sides of the debate. The lesson to be learned is, "Why does it have to be one or the other."

Re: - posted by GraceAlone (), on: 2006/11/15 9:29

1 John 3:6

"Whoever (practices) sins has neither seen Him nor known Him."

This is the clear interpretation of this verse.

The questions posed are interesting and the other verses that people are pointing to are not refuting perseverance of the saints.

Why I started this post was for an answer to this verse which clearly states that if you're living in sin you are lost and have never been saved. Logically concluding to the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints.

Are there any refutations to THIS very verse?

Is there an answer to this verse or are all Christians to be subject to this verse and the doctrine which arises from it?

WHAT ABOUT THIS VERSE?

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2006/11/15 11:38

Quote:

GraceAlone wrote:

1 John 3:6

"Whoever (practices) sins has neither seen Him nor known Him."

I agree real Christians do not sin everyday.

What is interesting to me is that many(not all) who believe that a Christian can not fall away, also believe that a Christian can not stop sinning.

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2006/11/15 12:04

Quote:

PreachParsly wrote:

Quote:

GraceAlone wrote:

1 John 3:6

"Whoever (practices) sins has neither seen Him nor known Him."

I agree real christians do not sin everyday.

What is interesting to me is that many(not all) who believe that a Christian can not fall away, also believe that a Christian can not stop sinning.

The Greek word for "sins" here is "preasent active" which means, sinning and keeps on sinning"

The christian may sin, but because of Eternal(John 17:3) life, he stops through the love for Christ.
The unsaved will not stop because he has no reason to.

Furthermore, to know Him is Eternal life(John 17:3). Therefore, if one has not Eternal life, he sins and keeps on sinning,
.

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2006/11/15 12:11

Quote:

-----The Greek word for "sins" here is "preasent active" which means, sinning and keeps on sinning"

The christian may sin, but because of Eternal(John 17:3) life, he stops through the love for Christ.
The unsaved will not stop because he has no reason to.

Furthermore, to know Him is Eternal life(John 17:3). Therefore, if one has not Eternal life, he sins and keeps on sinning, .

Amen

Re: - posted by GraceAlone (), on: 2006/11/15 16:17

I say that so far nobody has been able to refute this verse and I'm lead to believe that because this verse has been irrefutable... The doctrine of the perserverance of the saints is true.

1 John 3:6 (Heres a better interpretation.)

"Whoever (habitually practices) sins has neither seen Him nor known Him."

Are there any refutations to THIS very verse?

Is there an answer to this verse or are all Christians to be subject to this verse and the doctrine which arises from it?

WHAT ABOUT THIS VERSE?

Mabey we should change History to the four points of calvinism...lol

Re: - posted by GraceAlone (), on: 2006/12/27 16:42

Quote:

GraceAlone wrote:

I say that so far nobody has been able to refute this verse and I'm lead to believe that because this verse has been irrefutable... The doctrine of the per serverance of the saints is true.

1 John 3:6 (Heres a better interpretation.)

"Whoever (habitually practices) sins has neither seen Him nor known Him."

Are there any refutations to THIS very verse?

Is there an answer to this verse or are all Christians to be subject to this verse and the doctrine which arises from it?

WHAT ABOUT THIS VERSE?

Mabey we should change History to the four points of calvinism...lol

I'm sorry to bring this up again but I'm actually very curious to what the response to this verse is... :-(

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2006/12/28 0:20

1 John 3:6 Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him.

This is before this statement; 1 John 3:2-3 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

If we believe we are son's of God, this makes the ones that believe, pure as He is pure.

In being pure, what makes us pure? What makes a son? Christ is pure and the only One that can make us pure. He is also the only Begotten Son, so how can we be son's also? We are back to being born again, born again of Incorruptable Seed. We must have a new Father to be a new creature. God the Father has placed by the Holy Spirit the Same Seed of the Christ that was placed in Mary, and that makes us New Birthed children (son's) of God. As a Son Jesus did not sin, and that Seed in us does not sin, making us in spirit as Mary in Spirit conceived and a special body prepared by God was brought forth and His Name is Jesus. The Seed has been brought forth in us and my name is Phillip Christ. I am not as Christ, as the lie of the devil tempted Adam. Christians are Christ Ones, who were first called this in Antioch. All the Body of Christ are Christs'. We are His wife. We have His Name, Christ. By the Seed of God the Father we are born again son's, This is the mystery Paul speaks about a number of times. Paul uses the "Mystery" as the same meaning of Born Again. "now are we the son's of God"

Jesus Cannot sin and is pure, we have the same hope and cannot sin as we used to, if we do sin we have an Advocate with the Father.

1 John 3:5-7 And ye know that He was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin. Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous. Why is God faithful and just to forgive us our sins? Not because we confess but because Christ is in us. By confession there is not condemnation for those that are in Christ Jesus.

Satan wants to keep this truth from us so we do the works of our father's to attain our salvation. Still the lie, we as god's can make God happy by our works and our making ourselves like Jesus, hence; What would Jesus do? We must do the same, then God will be happy with us. Wrong! We are new creatures in Christ and we are perfect because He is perfect, a new creation race of people, son's of the Living God and because of Christ in us we cannot sin, that is why we must plant this corruptible seed in the Ground and will bring forth much fruit in the Father's House as son's of the living God.

The scripture is plain we cannot sin because we are son's and Christ is the Seed of the Father that is birthed in us.

Praise God, He has revealed this mystery to us. This truly does fulfill the Word of God.

Colossians 1:25-28 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

Are we perfect? Are we pure? Are we living in Christ and without sin to our Father?

Praise God, Jhn 12:43 For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

Rom 2:29 But he a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision of the heart, in the spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

Phl 1:11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

1Pe 4:11 If any man speak, as the oracles of God; if any man minister, as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

In all things by the Christ in me, I give praise and dominion to Jesus Christ who is my Life by whom I live in His Faith.

Phillip

thinking out loud - posted by dohzman (), on: 2006/12/28 8:22

I wonder what the progression was in consecration toward sanctification in the lives of the disciples of our Lord Jesus'? It might be an interesting place to start. :-)

Re: - posted by GraceAlone (), on: 2007/1/8 9:57

This is clearly saying that if you live in sin you are lost and have always been lost..

1 John 3:6 (Heres a better interpretation.)

"Whoever (habitually practices) sins has neither seen Him nor known Him."