



Scriptures and Doctrine :: Salvation

Salvation, on: 2010/2/14 21:51

This subject is so vague sometimes. Some people say, if you say the prayer and meant it, you are a christian, which I disagree too. You have to be changed and repent. Some say if the Holy Spirit is in you, you will change automatically.

But I think most of question our salvation from time to time especially when you were good at controlling your sin but when you fall, you might feel that you were never saved in the first place. Even Francis Chan sometimes questions his salvation. So what is the definitive answer?

It's very hard to talk about this at church where everyone has to act perfect, not because of God but for people.

So, here is an example. Lets say you do drugs or smoke or any other sin. The church frowns upon this so around christians you have to act like you just quit cold turkey. But most of the time, you just can't quit cold turkey. This goes for any sin: sex, masturbation, hatred, anger, impatience, etc.

And many times you question your salvation because you still are doing the sin. You tell yourself that if you were really saved Holy Spirit would not allow you to sin.

So is there a good site or anything that dictates the in's and out's of salvation?

Re: Salvation - posted by jimp, on: 2010/2/14 22:39

hi, the bible says;whosoever calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.anything you do that you could be proud of is not part of salvation. repentance is laying your life on the altar and choosing Him as Lord...alost man cannot change for he is at enmity with God and vice versa we need to be born of the spirit not of our flesh..jimp

Re: Salvation, on: 2010/2/14 23:22

Quote:
-----you have to act like you just quit cold turkey. But most of the time, you just can't quit cold turkey. This goes for any sin: sex, masturbation, hatred, anger, impatience, etc.

This gave me an idea. There are Two Ways to Stop Sinning: Way to stop sinning number one is Cold Turkey. Way to stop sinning number two is Hot Turkey - in hell.

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/15 0:15

Quote:
-----benjoseph said:
There are Two Ways to Stop Sinning: Way to stop sinning number one is Cold Turkey. Way to stop sinning number two is Hot Turkey - in hell.

There are two ways to Stop Sinning:
One way to stop sinning is to just stop.
The other way is to **NOT** stop sinning until you're dead and in hell.

Quote:
-----codek said:
But most of the time, you just can't quit cold turkey. This goes for any sin: sex, masturbation, hatred, anger, impatience, etc.

There is no reason that you just **can't** quit sinning cold turkey.

Let's get serious; what is stopping you?

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 0:44

Pick any one of those. It should apply to all. I'm not a crazy sinner or anything. Just your average Joe.

Let's pick drugs. Let's say you're addicted to crack and you get saved. Holy spirit gives you power to never do crack again from that moment on in all cases? You can use smoking in this example.

What about the sin of gluttony? Our body is a temple of God. But how many people do you see quit all normal foods and go on a strict vegan diet cold turkey to never go back?

How about pornography or even lust. What if you saw a pretty girl walk by? Even Francis Chan said that those temptations don't go away from you because you are saved. Isn't it a constant war between flesh and spirit for all the days of your life?

What about anger? Someone deliberately tried to hurt you or your family? Or you just caught your wife cheating on you? after you were saved. Someone just raped someone close to you and they show up next to you?

I'm not understanding the responses so please clarify. So everyone saved would have stopped cold turkey? Then we would be perfect after salvation?

Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2010/2/15 1:25

hi, Jesus already paid the price for ALL of your sin. He is the last sacrifice. IT IS FINISHED. if you are in Jesus... john 3 16..
.jimp

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 2:45

I think people confuse temptation with sin a lot.

It is not wrong to have temptations or feel certain emotions if we have no choice about it. Sin is only when we choose to do something wrong.

Sin we have to stop cold turkey because sin is rebellion against God and it dishonors him. Temptation is something we pray to be kept from but remember Jesus experienced great temptation. Temptation is something we will have but sin we must forsake completely.

Re: - posted by IWantAnguish (), on: 2010/2/15 3:40

I do not agree with the idea that people stop sinning once in hell.

Hell is the full depravity of man in sin without the Holy Spirit to restrain the natural fallen tendency of man...

Thus people can finally hate God with the totality of their entire being for the first time in their lives...

=====

And as for the topic of salvation...

Although I do not agree that people can make a choice to stop the inward sins of pride, bitterness, lust, envy, jealousy, hate, arrogance, deceitfulness, selfishness... I believe that the grace of God is more than able to change the direction and leanings of the heart in such a way that would be so supernatural, that only God could receive the glory for the change in the individual.

For He takes out the heart of stone, and puts in a heart of flesh with His commandments written upon them... The natural tendency of the born-again believer is towards God, as much as his flesh groans and wrestles under the weight of sin, the believer yearns for the day to shuffle off this mortal coil and fly free, uninhibited towards God, his magnificent obsession.

Re: - posted by bible4life (), on: 2010/2/15 4:25

I recommend a book for you it is real cheap about six dollars but it is a very good book on explaining what has happened through the cross of Jesus to the believer. The book is called the Normal Christian Life by watchman nee, trust me it is real good and real deep. If you are truly a believer your old self and sin nature has been crucified to the cross with Jesus, it was all judged on the cross. The book of romans is great at explaining that we as believers are dead to sin, we have to know this, we are no longer a slave to sin but to God and righteousness. We are now in the spirit and Christ is working in me now, i now overcome the deeds of the flesh because of Jesus Christ he has defeated sin, satan and death. As Christ rose from the dead we also have been rose to new bodies in Christ, we must know and reckon this and now live in the spirit, he has set you free if your a believer. Do not sow to the flesh but to the spirit, satan wants you to do the things of the flesh so he will tempt you and bring everything at you to defeat you but you must be strong in the word of God and do as james ch.4 says to resist satan and submit unto God, your a new creation if you our saved. The spirit and flesh war against one another but choose the spirit. When Christ died on the cross you have to realize your old self died with him on the cross, your a new man. I will say this about the believer according to scripture you look at the church of corinth and they were at a time living in carnality, but through the sanctifying work of the holy spirit in them they grew and matured in the walk. In hebrews it says that God chastizes his children but the ones he doesn't chastize over their sin they are considered bastards. If God has saved you, you will have a desire to live for righteousness and to obey the holy spirit, if you sin and you will be convicted and will want to repent. One thing we have to understand is that we are saved by Christ through faith in him, even that gift of faith is given by God. When we believe in Christ as our saviour of our sins and our life and on his finished work on the cross we are given the very righteousness of Jesus, his perfect righteousness in which is the only way to stand before a holy God. We are justified or made right in Gods eyes and i guess you can say considered sinless because of Christ's righteousness. You are given an A plus from the beginning because it is nothing you can do but what Christ has done. If you sin you do not lose your salvation you our still cleansed by his blood if you our saved. In hebrews it says that he died as a sacrifice once and for all for all sins and we must believe that it was past, present and future because otherwise we would be saying that it is something we had to do to maintain it. You need to get a proper understanding of God's hatred towards sin, study it in scripture and though whatever way possible so you can understand how much God hates sin in so much that his only begotten son Jesus Christ had to die for us by bearing our sins upon himself. God's hatred and justice against sin is shown at the cross. He does not tolerate sin. Read habakuk, spelled it wrong ch. 1 verse 13. It says the Lords eyes are to pure to behold evil. Everytime we sin we are taking the side of satan over God. Christ shed his blood for us because sin was heinous before a holy God. It took his death to save us. I hope i helped.

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 5:21

@IWantAnguish

First off, I want to tell you I appreciate your posts. They really are insightful and help me out a lot.

about this:

And as for the topic of salvation...

Although I do not agree that people can make a choice to stop the inward sins of pride, bitterness, lust, envy, jealousy, hate, arrogance, deceitfulness, selfishness... I believe that the grace of God is more than able to change the direction and leanings of the heart in such a way that would be so supernatural, that only God could receive the glory for the change in the individual.

Do you agree with some posters here that God should do this instantaneously when you get saved and the Holy Spirit resides in you? And that the inward sins of pride, bitterness, lust, envy, etc are forever gone?

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 5:26

@benjoseph

I agree people do confuse sin and temptation a lot. But I need to clarify the issue at hand is do we continually sin after we receive salvation or not.

I believe so. I believe Jesus died not just for past sins but for current and future sins. I do not believe that after we are saved, we become sinless creatures.

I believe that even though the Holy Spirit comes into you, I believe you will still be prideful, etc until the Holy Spirit gives you the power to overcome those sins. Sure, sometimes you can quit cold turkey but that would matter if we only had a few types of sins. I believe that each of us has a multitude of sins because we were of this world.

Even in the way we speak to each other, we are heavily encouraged to sugarcoat everything we say and lie to others in society. Isn't lying a sin? When I talk about sin, I'm talking about all sins, not just the major ones in society.

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/15 12:05

Quote:

-----codek said:
What if you saw a pretty girl walk by?

I would see her & acknowledge her beauty.
Just because I see a "hot chick" and acknowledge the fact that she is hot does not mean that I have lusted after her.

Quote:

-----Isn't it a constant war between flesh and spirit for all the days of my your life?

Yes, but that doesn't mean we can not win every single time.

Quote:

-----What about anger?

Be angry, but do not sin (Eph 4:26)

Quote:

-----So everyone saved would have stopped cold turkey? Then we would be perfect after salvation?

Amen!!!

Mat 5:48, Col 1:28, Php 3:15, 2Tim 3:17, James 1:4

Please answer this question:

what is making you sin that you can't stop?

Or

Concering sin, whay can't you stop?

Quote:

-----I believe Jesus died not just for past sins but for current and future sins.

Jesus dies for our past sins. However, God does not foregive our future sins; that would mean God assumes that we will sin again. This would not be a loving attitude; Love believes all things & trusts all things (1Co 13:7)

IOW, love believes that you will not sin and expects you not to.

Quote:

-----I believe you will still be prideful, etc until the Holy Spirit gives you the power to overcome those sins.

All mankind has the power to not sin already, otherwise it would not be justifiable for God to command against it.

The fact that we are able, but still choose to sin makes us culpable & guilty.

For, if we could not stop sinning we would not be disobedient rebels, but only invalids and not guilty.

Invalids are not to be condemned but pitied.

Quote:

-----I do not believe that after we are saved, we become sinless creatures.

We can become sinless if we want to.

Sin is only a choice.

If you can choose not to sin once, then you can always choose not to sin again.

Think about this:

If you can't stop sinning, then what good is our relationship with Christ?

Is He only here to forgive us?

Or is Jesus the Object of our love that we may not sin against. (John 14:15, John 14:21, John 15:10, 1 John 5:2, 1 John 5:3, 2 John 1:6)

Love fulfills the law. To love is the same as to be walking in the spirit.

I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh (Gal 5:16) That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit (Rom 8:4).

It is impossible to sin as you walk in the spirit.

Re: - posted by TrueWitness, on: 2010/2/15 12:49

I have discovered that if you struggle against temptation, you will fail. I am not saying for you to give in to the temptation, only that you must rely on the Holy Spirit to overcome the temptation. If you don't rely and trust in the Lord's saving power, He is obligated to let you fail. Another Watchman Nee book entitled, The Overcoming Life describes this key revelation which seems counter-intuitive:

It is one thing to say that we cannot make it, and it is another thing to give up trying to make it. Have we seen that there are these two things? We cannot make it, and we should not try to make it. Many times, we know that we cannot make it, yet we continue to try to make it. The first condition to victory is to realize that we cannot make it, and the second is to give up trying to make it. If we will admit that we cannot make it and give up trying to make it, we will overcome. The problem is that although we know that we cannot make it, we try our best to make it. We want to use our own effort and strength. We think that if we prayed more, we would make it, or if we made more resolutions, we would stand. Even though we cannot make it, we try to make it.

Suppose that there is an object weighing three hundred catties. Suppose further that you know that you can only lift two hundred catties. There is no way for you to lift a weight of three hundred catties. However, many people try to lift a weight that they know very well they cannot lift. They say, "I know I cannot make it, but why don't I give it a try?" They cannot make it, yet they want to try. It is one thing for a person to be unable to make it, and it is another thing for him to give up trying to make it. Since we cannot make it, we might as well not try to make it. "Lord, I cannot make it, and I do not intend to try to make it. I will not try anymore." Your hands have to let go completely. Letting go is a big thing. Since you know that you cannot make it, you should stay in that position and not try to make it. Recently, I have met many brothers who have repeatedly committed some sins. They confessed that they could not overcome. But I asked whether they were still trying to overcome. Eventually, they conceded and said, "What more can we do? We give up." God has crucified you on the cross and has given up hope in you. But you must also admit that you cannot make it. You must also acknowledge this.

Unfortunately, we still try to make it by ourselves. What does it mean to try to make it? Let me take temper as an example. Suppose you are a quick-tempered person, and you cannot control your temper. The more you try, the more you fail. You admit that you can do nothing about your temper. What should you do? You know with certainty that there is no way to control your temper, yet you still try to control it. Then what do you do? You try to be more careful when you speak with

h others. You try to avoid those with whom you cannot get along well, and you try to talk to those with whom you can get along well. You avoid fellowship with those who agitate you and run away from their face. Every time you are about to lose your temper, you try your best to suppress it. You try to suppress it with more prayers. What is this? This is being unable, yet at the same time trying to be able. You cannot make it, yet at the same time you try to make it. You cannot make it, yet you exert some effort in an attempt to make it. This kind of person will never overcome. He will never be able to say, "I am crucified with Christ."

Brothers and sisters, please remember that the condition of victory is acknowledging that we are unable, and the greatest barrier to victory is trying to be able. Victory is from Christ; it is Christ who is living on our behalf. The overcoming life requires that we take a stand and declare, "I cannot make it and I do not intend to make it. Please make it for me. I will not fabricate my own victory." If we do this, we will overcome. God cannot deal with people who always try to make it. God can do nothing for them. If we try to make it and if we resolve to make it, God will stop as soon as we start. Christ lives within us in order to live Himself out of us. The problem is that we try to preserve the wholeness of our own work. We must completely deny our own work before Christ can express His life through us. If we try to help Him a little and try to bring in man's work, God's grace will go away. If Christ does not overcome for us, whatever victory there is will be our own victory. Christ's power is not for the purpose of making up our lack. Christ's life is not for the purpose of patching the holes in our lives. He wants to live instead of us. If we want Christ to live instead of us, we ourselves must not live. We must first know that we cannot make it, before God will have His way. Do not try to linger on in the battle. The minute we fight we will lose. We hope to make it, and we think it would be wonderful if we could make it. But while we are struggling, Christ is not living within us.

This is what is meant by glorying in my weakness. I can't, but Christ in me can. If you struggle with habitual sin and repeatedly fall, I strongly recommend that you read *The Overcoming Life*. It is available online at:

<http://www.ministrybooks.org/collected-works.cfm>

Click on the link at item #24

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/15 14:59

Quote:

-----TrueWitness said:

I have discovered that if you struggle against temptation, you will fail.

Why is this?

Can't you just choose to not sin?

Yes.

Quote:

-----only that you must rely on the Holy Spirit to overcome the temptation.

What will the Holy Spirit do so that you will overcome the temptation?

Will He **make** you to not sin?

No.

Fact of the truth is, the Holy Spirit will encourage you not to sin.

He will remind you not to sin.

He will tell you the way of escape (1Co 10:13), but you must do the escaping.

Quote:

-----What does it mean to try to make it? Let me take temper as an example. Suppose you are a quick-tempered person, and you cannot control your temper.

The problem with this is that all mankind **IS** able to control their temper.

This example is starting on a false premise.

Quote:

-----Brothers and sisters, please remember that the condition of victory is acknowledging that we are unable, and the greatest barrier to victory is trying to be able.

This is contradictory to the truth.
We are able by obedience to Him; all we need to do is LOVE HIM.

Quote:
-----Victory is from Christ; it is Christ who is living on our behalf.

What does this mean?
Is Christ doing it for us?
No.
Fact of the truth is that we choose to submit to Him.
This is an act of our will.

Victory **from** Christ is wrong; He is our victory.
Victory is from obedience!

Quote:
-----If Christ does not overcome for us, whatever victory there is will be our own victory.

This is not a bad thing.
Christ will not overcome for us.
He will not possess us and take over as a demon would.

This sounds real nice & all, but it is not applicable.
We don't just give up and hope to be taken over as a puppet.

The victory must be ours or there is no victory at all. It is our obedience to Him that gives us the victory.
When we have the victory, Christ is glorified in our obedience to Him.

Quote:
-----He wants to live instead of us. If we want Christ to live instead of us, we ourselves must not live.

What does this mean?
How is this applicable?
It means that we are to be submitted to Him and do the things which He would have us do.
This is an act of our will.

Quote:
-----This is what is meant by glorying in my weakness. I can't, but Christ in me can.

To glorying in my weakness is to take pleasure in things beyond my control.
However, **sin is never beyond any of our control.**

Those things which would be out of our control are **reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake** (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 15:16

That Nee article sounds more like Buddhist/Zen philosophy than Christianity. If you stop trying you will succeed...

Jesus said to strive to enter in through the narrow gate.

Jesus said to be perfect.

Jesus said "go and sin NO more" - not "go and sin SOME more."

Jesus said if your eye causes you to sin, rip it out! and throw it as far as you can!

If your hand causes you to sin chop it off!

Great peace have those who love Your law,
And NOTHING causes them to stumble.
(Psalm 119:165)

If we stumble then we must not love God's law! Why is that? God's law is perfect? The law requires us to love God and our neighbor. Of course we should do this! Of course we can love God and our neighbor! If we stumble it is because we choose to love ourselves MORE than others. We cannot serve two masters. If we love our selfishness we will HATE God's perfect law of love. And of course we will do nothing but stumble and grope about as in the dark.

I have taught you in the way of wisdom;
I have led you in right paths.
When you walk, your steps will NOT be hindered,
And when you run, you will NOT stumble.
Take FIRM HOLD of instruction, do NOT LET GO;
Keep her, for she is your LIFE.
(Proverbs 4:11-13)

Do not think to say to yourselves "we are Abraham's children"

Whatever a man reaps he will sow.

If you go to the grocery store and buy junk food will you return home to find healthy food in the bags? Of course not. Whatever you spend your earnings on, that is what you will eat.

Whatever way a tree falls that is where it will stay.
If a man dies in his sin he will stay in his sin.

If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a PERFECT man, able also to bridle the WHOLE BODY.

If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth NOT his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, THIS MAN'S RELIGION IS IN VAIN.

If we do not bridle our tongues then our religion is in vain. If we bridle our tongues then we can be perfect. We must choose between perfection and useless vain religion.

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/15 15:23

Quote:
-----benjoseph said:
That Nee article sounds more like Buddhist/Zen philosophy than Christianity.

Yeah, Watchman Nee was a quack.

Re: - posted by bible4life (), on: 2010/2/15 16:41

i have found nee to be very helpful while reading normal christian life, i don't know about that quote though.

Re: - posted by bible4life (), on: 2010/2/15 16:45

i recommend brother to read this carefully on the sacrifice of Jesus, he died once for all.

- 1 Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary.
- 2 For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary.
- 3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all;
- 4 Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;

5 And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly.
6 Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God.
7 But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people:
8 The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:
9 Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;
10 Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.
11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;
12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.
13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:
14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?
15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.
16 For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.
17 For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.
18 Whereupon neither the first testament was dedicated without blood.
19 For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people,
20 Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you.
21 Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry.
22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.
23 It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.
24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:
25 Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others;
26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.
27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:
28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation. hebrews ch. 9 kjv

Re: - posted by bible4life (), on: 2010/2/15 16:48

24 But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.
25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.
26 For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;
27 Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.
28 For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated for evermore.
hebrews ch. 7
very important he died once and for all and his sacrifice was sufficient for all sins to those who are justified by him. He is on the mercy seat forevermore to make intercession for the saints.

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 17:31

@logic.

When is the last time you sinned?

Will you ever sin again?

No disrespect to you logic but can anyone backup what he is saying? It sounds nice but I need to see someone live like that to believe it. I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYONE LIVE LIKE THAT.

It sounds like you can be PERFECT and flawless after you have the Holy Spirit in you. Or maybe even before the Holy Spirit is in you.

What about idolatry? I heard someone tell me that if you can't throw away anything in your life in that instant, it is idolatry.

Let's say you saved up for a TV or a guitar or even a nice meal. If you can't give it up in that instant, that is idolatry.

Re: - posted by twayneb (), on: 2010/2/15 17:48

Quote:

-----That Nee article sounds more like Buddhist/Zen philosophy than Christianity. If you stop trying you will succeed...

benjoseph: It is not at all that sort of thing. I agree with Truewitness. I have experienced it myself. In the book of Hebrews, Paul talks about entering into the rest that God has for us. He says that rest is a cessation of our own labors just as God, when He had finished His own labors, rested on the seventh day. It is a total abandonment of our own efforts and a total reliance on God through faith. The walk of faith is that rest. This does not mean that we don't make decisions to stand against temptation. We just realize that in our own strength and power we cannot have victory. We abandon our own efforts and our own strength and instead allow the power of the Holy Spirit to work through us. Nee was not a quack. He was not right in all things. He was a fallible human being. But I have read his writings on dying to self, and he is spot on. So many of us have interpreted dying to self as, "Man up and quit sinning. Just decide you are not going there anymore and quit it.", as if sinning were the definition of the self we are putting to death. Not so. Dying to self means dying to one's reliance on self to do ANYTHING. We must quit living and allow Christ to live in us. As long as we are doing it, He cannot.

This brought me to a greater understanding of James 4:7 as it pertains to temptation.

Jas 4:7

(7) Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

We focus on the "resist" portion of the scripture. But if we are resisting on our own effort, "I won't, I won't, I won't", guess what...We will! But if we get first things first and submit to God, then we can resist effectively. We say, "God, I cannot defeat this temptation on my own. I have tried and failed. I repent of trying to do this on my own. I recognize it as pride to think I can just tuff it out and stop on my own. I submit myself to You. I give up on trying myself and from now on will rely only on Your power. Now Lord, I am going to stand and resist the devil in Your strength. You do it through me." It is only then that we can effectively resist the devil. To resist means to actively fight against. It goes far beyond simply saying, "temptation I resist you." We must use the Word of God as our sword empowered by the anointing of the Holy Spirit and resist the devil in that way. We literally use the word of God as an offensive weapon as we are told to do in scripture. If I am using His word empowered by His Holy Spirit and I have given up on my own efforts as being in any way sufficient, then I have total victory.

So you see, it is not some kind of philosophical thing. It is just fighting scripturally to obtain victory.

Travis

PS: In my own walk, I found this one revelation to be the key that allowed me to walk in true victory in areas I had not b

efore. It is just God's way. Total abandonment of self reliance, and total reliance on Him in all things.

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/15 18:05

Quote:

-----codek said:
When is the last time you sinned?

I don't know, it's been a while.
I have not recently chose to rebel or be disobediant towards God.
I have not neglected anything which would cause me to sin either.

Why do you ask anyway?

Quote:

-----Will you ever sin again?

I sure hope not, I don't plan on it.
No one has to sin anyway.

Quote:

-----I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYONE LIVE LIKE THAT

Listen to Leonard Ravenhill, he talks the same way as I am.

Quote:

-----Leonard Ravenhill says:
You see some bumper stickers saying "Christians Aren't Perfect, Just Forgiven"; they say Christians are not sinless, they just sin less. Well, I got news for you; if you're a Christian, you don't sin! You've got victory over sin! The Lord Jesus Christ came to purify us unto holiness and nothing but purity will satisfy Him!

You say I'm preaching sinless perfection. You say, "Well, do you think you can get to a place where you **can't** sin?" I know nothing of the kind. It is not impossible (for a Christian) to sin, but it's possible not to commit sin.

Quote:

-----It sounds like you can be PERFECT and flawless after you have the Holy Spirit in you.

The Bible tells us to be perfect, therefore we may.
However, the Bible never tells us to be "flawless"

Quote:

-----Or maybe even before the Holy Spirit is in you.

It would be much more difficult if the Holy Spirit wasn't in you, but it must be possible since God commands it.

God cannot command impossibilities, it would be unjust (not to mention ridiculous).

Quote:

-----What about idolatry? I heard someone tell me that if you can't throw away anything in your life in that instant, it is idolatry. Let's say you saved up for a TV or a guitar or even a nice meal. If you can't give it up in that instant, that is idolatry.

They could always throw it away if they want, but they are not willing.
Furthermore, the hesitation to throw it away does not prove it to be idolatry.

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 18:23

I'm just trying to prove a point. This just doesn't make any sense. You said

Quote:

-----It is imposible to sin as you walk in the spirit.

then you reply

Quote:

-----Quote: codek said: When is the last time you sinned? I don't know, it's been a while. I have not recently chose to rebel or be diso
bediant towards God. I have not neglected anything which would cause me to sin either. Why do you ask anyway?

What I'm saying is that sin in somes are involutary. You previously said it is impossible to sin as you walk in the spirit wh
ich we should be doing at all times after we are saved. but in the next quotation that it's been awhile since you sinned. I
thought after we're saved, we never sin?

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/15 18:48

Quote:

-----codek asked:
I thought after we're saved, we never sin?

As Leonard Ravenhill says, "It is not **impossible** (for a Christian) to sin, but it's possible not to commit sin."

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 19:00

The devil wants us to believe that we can never be free from sin. The devil sometimes accuses people of sinning even if
they are not doing anything wrong on purpose. God will never accuse us of sin unless it was on purpose. Anything invol
untary is just a mistake which we don't need forgiveness for, but it is still good to apologize for mistakes for the sake of o
thers.

A Christian is just someone who is following Christ. Being a Christian is an everyday choice. When we sin we are not foll
owing Christ so we are not being a Christian while we sin. That doesn't mean that God doesn't want us to repent and res
ume walking as a Christian daily.

So Christians don't sin because being a Christian means following Jesus who did not sin. But Christians CAN sin becaus
e they have free choice. If a Christian sins he is no longer following Jesus who did not sin. They are not worthy of the na
me Christian while they are being deliberately selfish and sinning. But God wants them to repent so he can forgive them
and they can walk as sinless Christians again.

God is slow to anger and long-suffering with us. We should not put him to the test like the Hebrews in the wilderness wh
o sinned and died.

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 19:02

It should be every man's plan to never sin again. God does not deserve us to sin against him and we should not sin agai
nst each other either. Let's love God and each other and never sin. Let's put sin behind us and grow in love as God teac
hes us.

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 19:18

Quote:

-----As Leonard Ravenhill says, "It is not impossible (for a Christian) to sin, but it's possible not to commit sin."

But how many christians live that life? I have seen NONE that never sinned. It's only possible if someone has done it. Name a person. Out of the billions of people living on this earth and the billions before it, name one besides Jesus with no sin after conversion.

This is my point. I challenge anyone to never sin even if it's from now on.

If it's possible, prove it. Salvation to me is a gift. You weren't righteous, you can't earn it. What God wants is for you to try your best. Trying your best is the sign that you have the Holy Spirit in you. But try as we might, we will still fall from time to time because we live in this flesh.

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 19:28

Hi codek,

Do we continually sin after we receive salvation?

Salvation is God's undeserved promise to forgive sins that are in our past. If we have sins right now in our present then we will not be right with the Father until we confess and forsake those sins. Once they are in our past then he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

As long as we are walking in the light and not disobeying our calling then we have salvation through Jesus.

Some people backslide and then either repent or die in their sins. Other people repent once and never sin again. Someone like Jesus never sins in the first place.

Wherever we are coming from we must lay aside our sin and continue in love and holiness until the end.

Quote:

-----I believe that even though the Holy Spirit comes into you, I believe you will still be prideful, etc until the Holy Spirit gives you the power to overcome those sins.

You always had the power to overcome sin as God said to Cain before he killed his brother "Why are you angry, and why is your expression downcast? Is it not true that if you do what is right, you will be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door. It desires to dominate you, but you must subdue it."

Quote:

-----Sure, sometimes you can quit cold turkey but that would matter if we only had a few types of sins. I believe that each of us has a multitude of sins because we were of this world.

Yes sin expresses itself in many ways. However, be careful not to confuse a multitude of things we haven't learned yet with sin. We may make many mistakes but these are not sin. We may have many difficult situations where are emotions are tempting us but this is not sin.

Quote:

-----Even in the way we speak to each other, we are heavily encouraged to sugarcoat everything we say and lie to others in society. Isn't lying a sin? When I talk about sin, I'm talking about all sins, not just the major ones in society.

It might help you to understand that all sin comes from one source. Selfishness. Love for ourselves is not wrong but selfishness is wrong. When we love ourselves more than God and more than others it is selfish. If we don't love God with all our heart, soul, mind, strength and our neighbor as ourselves, it can only be because we are being selfish. So we only need to repent on ONE sin. Selfishness. If we repent of this one root of sin then the whole tree of sin will dry up and die a

nd be easily torn up and cast away.

The bible says love fulfills the law. All we need to do is be properly loving. It is not a burdensome or grievous command. Sometimes life is very painful, like it was for Jesus, but he overcame the world and so can we.

Re: - posted by bible4life (), on: 2010/2/15 19:58

christian perfectionism, what is the point of Christ dying for our sins, because we cannot save ourselves and live righteous enough to ever stand before a perfect and holy God, you know that is the requirement to stand holy before God, you must be perfect, that is why Christ died for us because we couldn't, and even after we our saved we don't live perfect but we stay justified with the righteousness of Christ always. What is the point of sanctification or growth and maturity. We are perfect in the eyes of God because of Christ but we are sinners still saved by grace. Codek i am happy you understand we are righteous because of Christ and nothing we do. For us to enter the presence of God on our own behalf we must be perfect. So we are saying that we are saved by Christ but it us who will have to continue to perform and work to keep that status of justification, no it is only by Christ. Their are sins the Lord has not revealed to all of us even yet. Brother i recommend staying away from christian perfectionism, yes you should desire to live and be perfect in your walk, but you will not by your works not until your glorified will you be sinless. Study into Christ's imputed righteousness by faith.

Re: , on: 2010/2/15 20:51

If we pretend we tried our best and then give up and sin then we are disobeying God. BUT if we truly try our best then we ARE obeying God. If we don't know all the answers to something this is not a sin. If our weak physical bodies limit us from doing something, this is not a sin.

I'm sure there are plenty of people who never sinned after their conversion. I also think there may be people who never sinned besides Jesus. We just wouldn't necessarily hear about them. But isn't it sad how discouraging all the sin in the world is?? It even leads people who seem to truly hate sin to think that it is impossible to be free from sin. If we sin we are guilty for this wicked example we would set for others. It is such an awful discouraging influence. As the bible says "ruin and misery are in their ways".

But the Lord says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke on you and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and my load is not hard to carry."Â

John says, "His commandments are not grievous."

God will always provide a way of escape from temptation.

We've all been challenged to never sin again. The Holy Spirit challenges us continue sin-free every day.

It doesn't matter how many other people have sinned. We can be sin free. It doesn't matter how much we've sinned in the past. We can be sin free. It doesn't matter even if we were the most wicked sinner on earth, we could stop sinning immediately and trust in Jesus Christ.

Let's all accept this challenge.

Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2010/2/15 21:20

hi, all of your righteousness is as filthy rags...saved by grace not works lest any man should boast...paul at the end of his ministry still calls himself the chief of sinners...sin does not send you to hell;the Fathers judgement on sin does and Jesus has taken that judgement on Himself...i could go on and on.jimp

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/15 21:48

Quote:

-----jimp said:
all of your righteousness is as filthy rags

Do you know what that means?
Why was our righteousness as filthy rags?

Please answer this, it's not rhetorical.

Quote:

-----Paul at the end of his ministry still calls himself the chief of sinners

Referring to 1 Timothy 1:15.
Paul wasn't meaning that he was currently a sinner.

In context to 1 Timothy 1:9 which says, " Knowing this, that **the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers...**

So, if Paul was actually calling himself a sinner, then he wasn't a righteous man & the law was made for the likes of him.

Quote:

-----sin does not send you to hell

Huh?
Yes it does, without sin we would not be condemned.

Quote:

-----Father's judgment on sin does

Semantics...

Re: - posted by IWantAnguish (), on: 2010/2/15 22:03

Quote:

-----Do you agree with some posters here that God should do this instantaneously when you get saved and the Holy Spirit resides in you?
u? And that the inward sins of pride, bitterness, lust, envy, etc are forever gone?

No x 2.

I do not care much for theories and arguments... as I have found in my own life that these often do not hold water, and offer no foundation for practical reality in day to day life.

As for those here on this site who claim that it is possible to not sin... I would first ask for their definition of sin... It is very possible that their understanding of sin is quite similar to the definition that the Pharisees had back in the time of Jesus.

"As long as I don't lust, or cheat, or lie, or steal, I am not sinning."

O really?

In not doing those things, you did not worship God in spirit and in truth, you simply did not do something. That is not to be confused with actually doing something. Doesn't Paul say, anything that does not proceed from faith is sin?

Christianity is more than simply do's and do not's. Those that claim perfection is possible if you 'walk in the spirit' have a legalistic holiness.

Their actions and inactions are not driven by a primary motivation for the glory of God through the cross of Christ.

Do you guys who think perfection is possible here, really think you're going to change the leanings of my heart towards racism by telling me that racism is wrong?

Are you really going to change my proud heart by telling me some story about how pride is bad?

Are you going to make me love my neighbor by telling me that it is a commandment?

Don't be deceived. The root of sin lies much deeper than choice. There is a reason people make choices. The reason behind the choice is the wickedness of the heart of man.

Why did I choose to look at that half-dressed girl on campus?

Did I think, I WANT TO SIN, I'M GONNA LOOK AT HER!!!

Not really, but my flesh gets pleasure out of sensuality... leading me to want the gratification of looking.

Are you going to change my appetite for sexual lust by telling me to stop it?

Let's be honest.

As a Christian grows, there will be more and more victory in the life, simply because growing means receiving more revelation about God, leading to a deeper love for Him. An individual who does not know much about God will not have much victory over inner sins... but as sanctification continues, the victories will become more frequent.

Re: - posted by IWantAnguish (), on: 2010/2/15 22:03

Edit- Bad internet = Double post. =(

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/15 22:05

Quote:

-----bible4life said:
but we are sinners still saved by grace.

There is no such thing as a saved sinner.
There is no saved drunk, saved druggie, saved fornicator...etc...

We are saints, saved by grace who were once sinners.

Quote:
-----So we are saying that we are saved by Christ but it is us who will have to continue to perform and work to keep that status of justification, no it is only by Christ.

If you don't keep that status of justification and fall into sin, then Christ will be nothing to you.

Quote:
-----There are sins the Lord has not revealed to all of us even yet.

How is it possible to not know of a sin?

If you are in sin & don't know about it, how are you culpable?
How should you repent?
Why wouldn't God reveal it yet?

Quote:
-----yes you should desire to live and be perfect in your walk, but you will not by your works not until your glorified will you be sinless.

So, is death our savior from sin?

Tell me, why can't you stop sinning?
Pease answer this, it is not rhetorical.

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/15 22:24

Quote:
-----IWantAnguish said:
Do you guys who think perfection is possible here, really think you're going to change the leanings of my heart towards racism by telling me that racism is wrong?

Why can't you love other races and not sin?

Quote:
-----Are you really going to change my proud heart by telling me some story about how pride is bad?

Why can't you just not be pridefull?
What is stopping you?
Plaes answer this, it is not rhetorical.

Quote:
-----Are you going to make me love my neighbor by telling me that it is a commandment?

Why can't you love him?
God told you to, He must think you can.
God surely wouldn't command you to love your neighbor if you couldn't.

Quote:
-----Don't be deceived. The root of sin lies much deeper than choice. There is a reason people make choices. The reason behind the choice is the wickedness of the heart of man.

Nope, the reason behind the choice is because they want to, not because of the wickedness of the heart of man.

The will of man makes the man's heart wicked. It is not the other way around.
Wickedness of the heart does not make the choices of man.

Quote:
-----Why did I choose to look at that half-dressed girl on campus?

Because she was pretty.
That is not a sin to see a pretty woman and acknowledg her beauty.
However, you did not have to lust after her, you have a choice in that matter.

Quote:
-----Did I think, I WANT TO SIN, I'M GONNA LOOK AT HER!!!

because just looking is not a sin.

Quote:
-----Not really, but my flesh gets pleasure out of sensuality... leading me to want the gratification of looking.

I like to look at pretty girls, but I do not lust after them.
However, I don't stare at them and dwell on their beauty.
It is not sinfull to see pretty women.

you can control yourself.
Self control is of the Fruit of the Spirit.

Quote:
-----Are you going to change my appetite for sexual lust by telling me to stop it?

Appetites are not bad or wrong in & of themselves, in fact appetite is good unless it's used wrongly &/or not kept in check.

God gave all mankind a sexual appetite. I have a great sexual appetite, but I only satisfy it with my wife.

Quote:
-----Let's be honest.

Yes, let's understand what sin really is.
apparently, you are a bit confused on what sin is.

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 8:52

"I also think there may be people who never sinned besides Jesus. We just wouldn't necessarily hear about them." benjoseph

"This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, 23FOR ALL HAVE SINNED AND FALLEN SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD 24and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus" Rom 3:22-24

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 10:00

Quote:
-----"I also think there may be people who never sinned besides Jesus. We just wouldn't necessarily hear about them." benjoseph

"This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, 23FOR ALL HAVE SINNED AND FALLEN SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD 24and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus" Rom 3:22-24

This passage says "all HAVE sinned" - it does not say "all WILL sin". It was written two thousand years ago and was only referring to people who had sinned up to that point. Not only does it allow for people who have not sinned since then, but in context I believe it is only saying that Jews, God's chosen people, have sinned as much as the other nations. The whole context of the passage is about whether Jews were better than the gentiles. It has nothing to do with whether a single individual lived a sin-free life.

If you want to read my notes on this passage I've stored them here http://sites.google.com/site/benstenson/romans_3_9-30

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 10:28

"This passage says "all HAVE sinned" - it does not say "all WILL sin". It was written two thousand years ago and was only referring to people who had sinned up to that point." benjoseph

Romans 3:21-24 Righteousness Through Faith

21But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify . 22This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, 23for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

He is simply describing righteousness apart from the law in Christ which has now been made known to which the Law and the Prophets testify. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile for both have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Jews and Gentiles are still here today. And there is also no difference between the two if they accept Christ and are justified freely by God's grace in Christ. No difference... both have sinned and both can be justified in Christ. As has been stated via testimony of the law and prophets, The Bible is capable of prophecy and therefore we can also assume that 'ALL have' means then, now, and in the future. It also says 'ALL who believe' as all who believe in Christ it will be credited to them as righteousness. We can't separate the two. Either 'ALL' means 'ALL' as in then and always moving forward or 'ALL' means just up to that point for both. And if the latter is the case then Christ is not for today but just then. It doesn't say 'ALL will believe' yet the promise of righteousness in Christ is still for today. The prophets testified to then and now, as the world and the sin in it has not changed. I don't know about you but I see sinfulness all around me today and the sins committed look similar to the ones then.... so they need a Savior. And if 'all who believe' are just for the sin that pertains to just then... then no one should be calling Jesus as Lord and Savior today. I see sin today just as there was then and I see a Savior at work just as there was then. Otherwise the cross is in vain.

Revelations speaks of church repentance. Repentance from what? And when? Was this only for them 2000 years ago too?

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/16 11:02

Quote:

-----ccrider said:
"This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

Those who might have never sinned would definitely have faith, otherwise they would have sinned.

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 11:13

"Those who might have never sinned would definitely have faith, otherwise they would have sinned." logic

And yet you cannot provide any evidence of this. The one who might?? Convenient. You and Ben Joseph basically say 'there have been others who have not sinned' BUT we just don't know of any. This is a convenient assumption for you. You both live in a world of 'mights and buts'. The evidence, biblical and otherwise, is exactly the opposite. No one sins except Christ who knew no sin. When you can unequivocally produce the 'sinless man' outside of Christ then your argument can hold water.

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 11:24

Quote:

-----He is simply describing righteousness apart from the law in Christ which has now been made known to which the Law and the Prophets testify. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile for both have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Jews and Gentiles are still here today. And there is also no difference between the two if they accept Christ and are justified freely by God's grace in Christ. No difference... both have sinned and both can be justified in Christ.

I agree.

Quote:

-----As has been stated via testimony of the law and prophets, The Bible is capable of prophecy

I agree.

Quote:

-----and therefore we can also assume that 'ALL have' means then, now, and in the future.

The bible also says Peter, James, John, etc. forsook Jesus and fled. Can we assume that it means then, now, and in the future? Are Peter, James, and John forsaking Jesus now? Are they fleeing now? Will they flee in the future?

This passage is not a prophecy or a statement of how things will always continue to be. There is absolutely no justification

n for twisting "all have sinned" to mean "all do sin" or "all will sin". That is reading your own ideas into the bible.

Quote:
-----It also says 'ALL who believe' as all who believe in Christ it will be credited to them as righteousness. We can't separate the two. Eit her 'ALL' means 'ALL' as in then and always moving forward or 'ALL' means just up to that point for both.

That does not make any sense. One says "all who believe" (present tense) NOT "all who believED" (past tense). The oth er passage "all have sinnED" is in past tense. If it said "all do sin" or "all sin" then it would be in present tense like "all wh o believe" and then your comparison would be reasonable.

Quote:
-----And if the latter is the case then Christ is not for today but just then.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Jesus would not be less important because people obeyed God and never sinned. Jesus is not just a ticket to forgiveness.

Quote:
-----It doesn't say 'ALL will believe' yet the promise of righteousness in Christ is still for today.

Jesus said when he returns will he find faith on the earth? But maybe you meant that it doesn't say "all who will believe" but that doesn't matter. Your comparison was not warranted as I said above.

Quote:
-----The prophets testified to then and now, as the world and the sin in it has not changed. I don't know about you but I see sinfulness all around me today and the sins committed look similar to the ones then.... so they need a Savior. And if 'all who believe' are just for the sin that pertains to just then... then no one should be calling Jesus as Lord and Savior today. I see sin today just as there was then and I see a Savior at work just as th ere was then.

I don't follow you. Did you think I said no one sins today? I only meant that the specific phrase "all have sinned" was abo ut the Jews and Gentiles up to that point. I did not mean that there are no sinners today. I did not mean that sinners don' t need Jesus today. Sorry if what I said was unclear.

Quote:
-----Otherwise the cross is in vain.

The cross is not in vain because Adam needed a savior from his sin. Even if no one sinned after Adam, the sacrifice of J esus would still be of great value if it made our father Adam's redemption possible. Remember the parables of the lost s heep and the lost coin. God's love is so great that he was willing to lay down his life for each of us individually. It doesn't matter if many never sinned. He would seek the lost sheep.

The cross would truly be in vain if people could NOT live sin-free. If we can't help sinning at some point then WHY must someone DIE for it? Why couldn't God just be fair and understand that we couldn't help it. The doctrine of inevitable sin makes the cross in vain - not the truth that we are able to love God and our neighbor.

Quote:
-----Revelations speaks of church repentance. Repentance from what? And when? Was this only for them 2000 years ago too?

It was written to real churches back then. The principles and truth contained within these letters, God has preserved for our benefit today. It doesn't say that the churches will continue in sin. Some of them had no sin at all. Jesus expected all the sin to go away immediately. That was the whole point of the letters rebuking sin.

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 11:39

Quote:

-----And yet you cannot provide any evidence of this.

There is conclusive proof that never sinning is possible.

Quote:

-----The one who might?? Convenient.

That doesn't sound nice. Logic is not trying to base his theology on "convenience" but on God's glory and the truth. It doesn't matter if a doctrine is "convenient" or not - only whether it is true or not.

Quote:

-----You and Benjoseph basically say 'there have been others who have not sinned' BUT we just don't know of any.

That is a misrepresentation. I believe there probably are people who never sinned and Logic believes there could possibly be such people. I don't think either of us would say we definitely know someone sinless (besides children) or that we can prove it to you that such and such a person is sinless. That has nothing to do with whether it is true you can live sin-free.

Quote:

-----This is a convenient assumption for you.

Again, that doesn't sound very nice. No one is trying to make unwarranted assumptions. If you believe no one ever lived sin-free besides Jesus that is OK with me. The idea makes me sad but I won't argue with you about it just because it is a sad idea. It is totally possible that only Jesus lived sin-free. Just as the alternative is possible.

Quote:

-----You both live in a world of 'mights and buts'.

My father used to say "Just because I'm laughing doesn't mean you're not in trouble."

Let's try to edify each other in the truth instead of saying "you live in a different world" and things like that.

Quote:

-----The evidence, biblical and otherwise, is exactly the opposite. No one sinless except Christ who knew no sin.

I disagree. I don't think I have enough evidence one way or the other.

Quote:

-----When you can unequivocally produce the 'sinless man' outside of Christ then your argument can hold water.

You don't have to show an example of something in order to prove that it is possible. "I'll only believe what I see" is not the best approach to discerning the truth.

But what about John the baptist's parents? They had lived well into old age without sinning. But will you believe it even if the bible says so?

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 11:45

Okay Benjoseph what's the endgame for you here? It surely doesn't say 'all will not sin'. Are you saying that TODAY anyone can be sinless without Christ?

And are you saying that this sinless state without Christ is sufficient to see the Father in heaven?

Who needed a Savior then?

Who needs a Savior now?

Is there anyone who is not in need of Christ??

profitless palaber , on: 2010/2/16 12:24

this is the kind of childish thread that brings reproach to the witness we are given, that is the Sweet Fragrance of the Resurrected Messiah Jesus, and of the Blood, Which is wholly sufficient for cleansing of sin.

Child-like faith and absolute dependence on God, are good and pleasing to Him, childish religious arguments on a PUBLIC forum are a stench to Him.

Seek the "inner court" and just worship Him, for His sake, stop this nonsense, please beloved.

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/16 12:56

Quote:

-----ccrider asked:

Are you saying that TODAY anyone can be sinless without Christ?

I think I can answer for him.

The answer is, "No".

Quote:

-----And are you saying that this sinless state without Christ is sufficient to see the Father in heaven?

No.

Quote:

-----Is there anyone who is not in need of Christ??

Those who always choose to never sin will only need Christ as Lord; they will not need Him as Savior.

Therefore, All mankind needs Christ.

Re: profitless palaber - posted by Logic, on: 2010/2/16 13:04

Quote:

-----Natan4Jesus said:

this is the kind of childish thread that brings reproach to the witness we are given, that is the Sweet Fragrance of the Resurrected Messiah Jesus, and of the Blood, Which is wholly sufficient for cleansing of sin.

I would say quite the opposite if they see the truth which Ben & I are claiming.

We (Ben & I) are attempting to persuade people that no one ever needs to sin again and they never had to in the first place.

Those who read our posts will be encouraged to not sin and be truly convicted knowing that they could have avoided sin but still chose to.

Those who claim the opposite of Ben & I are telling people that they can't stop sinning and sin is inevitable.

Those who read them will be discouraged and most likely see their struggle against temptation and give in to it. They will also see that they are not culpable for the sin they do because they never could have avoided it; for know one is responsible for the inevitable. No one is guilty for that which is imposible to avoid.

Re: - posted by hoohouu (), on: 2010/2/16 13:07

Quote:
-----And are you saying that this sinless state without Christ is sufficient to see the Father in heaven?

I don't think that's what the 2 guys were saying. I think they're saying that it is possible not to sin. I have known lots of unsaved people who sinned less than me. They won't go to heaven because they have rejected God. Salvation comes through faith and not through works. Although Acts 26:20, Matthew 3:8 and Luke 3:8 all tell us that we must bear the fruit of repentance. That tells me there must be a difference in the way I behave.

I think also we are confusing willful rebellion and hidden sins of the heart. Willful rebellion we are able to overcome. Hidden sins of the heart will, at times, jump up and bite you. We repent of them and seek the face of Jesus and try to overcome that part of us that is not surrendered. You can't keep a bird from flying over your head, but you can keep it from building a nest in your hair.

The simple fact is that we must all rely on Jesus to overcome. We may stop smoking and never pick it up again, but in the end deny our Lord. We must seek His face with a passion that cannot be overcome. Surrender, die to self, and seek His face. Both side can quote scripture at one another. My personal opinion is that we can attain sinless perfection, but I do not think it will be all at once. As long as we really are, in all honesty, loving God with all our heart, mind, sould and strength he will lead and be our God.

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 13:08

"they will not need Him as Savior." logic

Okay. Thank you. I will heed brother Natan's timely admonishment and bow out now.

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 13:11

Quote:
-----Okay Benjoseph what's the endgame for you here? It surely doesn't say 'all will not sin'. Are you saying that TODAY anyone can be sinless without Christ?

I forgot to answer this question before posting this reply. Someone who haas never heard the Gospel can be sinless without Christianity because they don't know about Jesus yet. They can still love God and neighbor properly and thus be sinless apart from knowledge of the Gospel.

Once you hear the true Gospel however, and understand it, then you can never be sinless apart from Christ because if you see the light and reject it you make yourself a sinner.

Quote:
-----And are you saying that this sinless state without Christ is sufficient to see the Father in heaven?

Just because someone never sinned doesn't mean they wouldn't go through the Lord Jesus to see the Father. Jesus would still be the Lord of anyone who didn't sin. Eternal life is to know both God and Christ.

Quote:
-----Who needed a Savior then?

No one needed a savior from sin until they actually sinned. Children and the severely mentally handicapped don't need a savior from sin.

Quote:

-----Who needs a Savior now?

I do. I need a savior.

Quote:

-----Is there anyone who is not in need of Christ?

There are many things we need the Lord for. He gave us life. He reveals God's perfect love. He teaches us to be like God. He teaches us to have compassion on sinners.

Children don't need a sacrifice for sins they have not committed, yet still need Jesus. The Lord is more than a sacrifice for sin, though it is an awesome thing that he has done for us.

ccrider I hope I haven't given you the impression that I have some kind of hidden agenda or that I'm trying to be sneaky or something like that. I'm sorry if anything I say is unclear. Sometimes I don't make myself easy to understand for some people.

Also after reading Natan's comment saying that we are having a childish argument - I did think some of what you said sounded not nice but I could have just been misunderstanding you. It is hard to tell over the internet. I certainly don't have any hard feelings about anything. I love you. Even if I thought you were the worst heretic to walk the face of the earth I would still respect you as having been made in God's image. Now, if I was just misunderstanding you then you can just say so of course.

Natan, I don't think it is necessary for us to call each other childish. Sometimes it is emotional to disagree with someone about very important things like our doctrine.

However, if you think we can use improvement in the way we discuss things then please offer specific suggestions for how we can do better. It seemed as if you were suggesting we just not discuss at all since we disagree. I don't mean to make you feel too bad or anything but it seemed to me like you were saying that God hates our discussion because we disagree and that you would rather we just shut-up.

I'm sorry if I've misunderstood or misapplied your rebuke. Please tell me if I've taken you the wrong way.

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 13:19

Quote:

-----As long as we really are, in all honesty, loving God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength he will lead and be our God

Hi hoohou. Did you know that is exactly what I believe sinlessness is? Loving God with all you have and loving your neighbor as yourself. Anyone who is currently loving God and neighbor is sinless perfect in my understanding. However, I only mean moral perfection (of choice) not mental, physical, emotional perfection. I don't believe we are required to be physically, mentally, and emotionally perfect. We are morally perfect as long as we love God and neighbor.

If you love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength (all of your current ability) then you are morally perfect (sinless perfection).

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 13:27

The American evangelical church, which is the One True Religion, teaches that we are saved by reciting the sinner's prayer and we don't have to bother with all that obedience and sanctification stuff if we don't happen to feel like it. That settles it. Anyone who believes otherwise is anti-American and probably an al Qaeda sympathizer.

The fruit of Full Sanctification is a preoccupation with brawling over the doctrine of full sanctification. We know this because everyone who achieves sinless perfection spends the rest of their lives brawling over Wesleyan doctrine, like when Wesley organized a community of perfected saints, and then had to disband it to keep them from killing each other.

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 13:28

Quote:
-----Those who read our posts will be encouraged to not sin and be truly convicted knowing that they could have avoided sin but still chose to.

I agree with this and pray that it is true. How can you have a revival without repentance and obedience? Is God too busy to start a revival? Are we waiting for him? Or is he waiting for us?

Re: - posted by bible4life (), on: 2010/2/16 13:29

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8BYoyN-biMY>

I found a video hereby Tim Conway sinless perfectionism by Tim Conway.

Re: , on: 2010/2/16 13:31

"I'm sorry if I've misunderstood or misapplied your rebuke. Please tell me if I've taken you the wrong way." Ben Joseph

Hi Ben Joseph. If there's one thing I can see here among the disagreements is your heart in this. And I think we can both agree that we both hate sinfulness and love Christ. This is most important with the love of each other being tantamount to these. God bless.

(edit) Let me also add that the Bible says that God is not unjust. This cuts through the theological bantering on sinlessness in certain areas such as children and the handicapped. I have no worries that God will pardon justly, and see perfectly, without partiality or inconsistency. I don't need perfect theology to know this nor connect the dots rightly to understand it. Judgement that is reserved for us will always be just and perfect regardless of how any of us see this played out.

Re: - posted by hmmhmm (), on: 2010/2/16 13:43

I will lock this thread now because it is going round and round, this topic is one of many often debated through this forum's history, and seeing this thread is spinning downwards and not seeming to be building any one up in the most holy faith either.

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. (Matthew 1:21 KJV)

This is a promise for us to claim personally, God is a savior from sin, the name Jesus even means just this, every time we pray in "Jesus name" we are praying "save me from my sin" paraphrased. Salvation occurs in many different tenses, past, present, future tense, so be assured, God wants to save you from all sins, the past ones, your present ones, and your future ones. And scripture speaks very horrible things of those who use that to excuse a life of sin. It's a great comfort to me that day by day I am being transformed into his likeness, I was predestined for this very purpose, so to me it is easy, when I am perfect, reached a sinless state I will be like Christ in all areas.

Some may reach that here on earth, I don't know, myself have not reached that goal, to be as Christ in all areas, in my mind, heart, actions, my devotion etc. But Christ is my goal. And I rejoice in the fact he has promised me to save me from my sins. And he lives in me.

A discussion about being free from sin ought to make the readers rejoice and by reading gain a greater desire to be free

from sin, a stronger longing to become like Christ.

And i dont think we have that in this thread i am sorry to say. Let us press on towards perfection in how we communicate and the choice of words we use also, even when communicating a good thing.