

A portrait of a man with a short haircut, wearing a dark patterned blazer over a grey t-shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background consists of vertical wooden slats.

**SIN DOESNT TAKE YOU TO HELL,  
UNBELIEF IN JESUS DOES**

**ONLY BELIEVERS CAN REPENT**

**Pst. Promise Ikpe**

# **SIN DOESN'T TAKE US TO HELL, UNBELIEF IN JESUS DOES**

**John 3:18, NIV: "Whoever believes in him is not condemned,  
but whoever does not believe stands condemned already  
because they have not believed in the name of God's one and  
only Son."**

*The Evangelist Manual*

## DEDICATION

*To my late Father,  
Evangelist Benjamin. U. Ikpe  
(1952-2019)*

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## INTRODUCTION:

A man died after coughing extremely for days, his body wasn't responding to treatment because he was positive to HIV.

Another man died of fever, no treatment was effective on him because he was positive to HIV.

The report of these two people said, they died of AIDs not of cough or fever. The reason fever or cough could kill them is because they had a health condition that undermines every kind of treatment. Their bodies can no longer fight diseases neither was the treatment they subjected themselves to. The solution is to treat AIDs and the rest will fall in place.

Sin is defined as the transgression of the law and it is a manifestation of something more sinister; unbelief in The Savior.

The most important commandment of God is for us to believe in Him whom He has sent; Jesus Christ.

*Then they inquired, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent. John 6:28-29*

To perform the works of God which is to walk in righteousness is to believe in Jesus. The work oriented Jews wanted to know what they had to do to perform the works of God and Jesus said, all they needed to do was to believe in Him. When you believe in Jesus, you've performed the works of God. Glory!

Every other thing is hinged on this; believing in Christ Jesus. Whoever does not believe in Christ can't be righteous before God. We must first be clothed with Christ before we can be righteous before God.

*Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) Eph. 2 : 5*

If you want someone who is snoring to stop, the first thing you do is to wake the person up. Likewise, if you want someone who is living in sin to stop, first quicken him by preaching Christ to him.

Preaching moral uprightness to the dead (those without Christ) will yield no result. When Christ is preached and believed in, we become alive in Christ and will therefore be able to manifest moral uprightness by the miraculous act of God.

If you want to mold an iron, you first heat it up, if you try molding it while it's cold, it won't yield, it will rather break. The sinner who has not received Christ cannot overcome sin. You can only overcome sin after you've received Christ. You can only repent when Christ is in you.

## WHY MAN CAN'T DEAL WITH SIN BY HIS OWN WILL

People who do not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ cannot deal with the problem of sin, they can try to stop it for a while but they eventually fail in their bid to stop.

***O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps. Jer. 10:23***

Many years ago, a village brother in his New Year resolution decided to stop smoking gulf (a hard substance). He has always felt sorry about smoking it because it affects his health, his finances and relationship with his wife and children therefore he wanted to repent and stop smoking it. So during a certain new year, he decided to stop it, before then, he had tried and failed and kept deferring it so he said, definitely, during a new year, he'll stop it and he did. First month in the New Year, he didn't smoke, second month he didn't but in March that year, he had a little conflict with his wife and felt bitter and he was found in a gutter. He had gone and smoked more than he had ever tried and that destroyed his sanity temporarily and it took lots of therapy for him to recover. From that day, he



continued smoking gulf. If a man can help himself, God wouldn't reach out to man to help him; HE wouldn't send The Savior.

Israel had an issue with overcoming sin despite all the provisions of God and the punishment that comes with sinning, they fail every time and suffered every time like many people are failing today to overcome sin despite suffering from the consequences every time.

*Many times He would deliver them; They however were rebellious in their counsel, and so sank down in their iniquity. Ps. 106:43*

So many times they sinned and suffered because of their sins. Despite the suffering awaiting them yet they sinned. About 12 times in the book of Judges the Jews sinned and God sent judges to deliver them after their suffering forced them to repentance. A Judge will be raised by God to deliver them from the consequences of their sinful choices.

*And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord... Judges 3:7*

*And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD... Judges 3:12*

*And the children of Israel again did evil in the sight*

*of the LORD... Judges 4:1*

*And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD... Judges 6:1*

The cycle of repentance and evil continued with the children of Israel because repentance without belief in Christ has no foundation for righteousness. This was why God had to send Christ The Savior to deal with the problem of sin and the nature of sin in man because man in himself cannot deal with sins unless God circumcises the hearts of the man.

The Jews would repent after suffering severely for their evil, after a while, they'll fall back into the very same sin that have caused them to suffer and they'll fall into another suffering and the cycle continues.

This typifies what happens in the life of everyone who tries to defeat sin outside of Christ. The victory is only temporary as they'll always fall back into the same sin. This is why its important to point the sinner to Christ and not to sin.

'**Don't sin**' is an important message and it is also an impossible command for the man who isn't alive in Christ. This is why it is more important to preach Christ to the sinner than to preach sin. When you preach sin (don't so this, don't do that), they'll

become conscious of sin and that would make them to rely on their will-power to overcome sin and that would always lead to failure but when you preach Christ, their mind become filled with the knowledge of Christ and that would empower them to live above sin. Glory!

When you share the dangers of sins, also share the inability of man to overcome sin by himself and tell them the purpose of Christ; to deliver them from their sins. Now, that's the gospel with power.

When you just tell a man that sin is wrong, it leads to hell and you expect him to repent, he may, but it would be temporary because man can't save himself from sin no matter how severe the consequence of that sin is, how much he desires to stop sinning so as to avoid the consequences. We must preach Christ because it is only in Him that we'll find deliverance from the bondage of sin.

*...not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts. Zech. 4:6*

It's the spirit of God that quickens righteous living, man by himself can't by his might and will-power. When you persuade a man to live a righteous life by his power, tell him to make decision not to sin

instead of the decision to receive the spirit of God, you are setting up that man for failure. His victory over sin would be temporary and he'll become worse after his temporary repentance.

## HOW DID ABRAHAM BECOME RIGHTEOUS

*And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. James 2:23*

The law was given to Moses, Abraham was declared righteous not because he obeyed any law but because he believed in the word of God. His relationship with God that grew into friendship was on the basis of his belief in God's word and not on the basis of works.

God didn't call us to make promises we can't fulfil but to believe in the promise that He has made to us in Christ Jesus.

*But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness Rom. 4:5*

The promise to empower by His Spirit to have dominion over sin

*For sin shall not have dominion over you...Rom. 6:14*

The promise to keep us from falling into the life of sin

*Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. Jude 24*

The promise shows us the way out in the time of temptation.

*No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. 1Cor. 10:13*

Many people make promises to God to obey his laws and each time they fail. There is nowhere, where God asks us to make promises to Him, asking a remorseful sinner to make a promise to God not to return to sin is like asking a pig not to return to the gutter.

The reason pigs always stay inside of mud is because they are seeking for a cool place because the temperature of their bodies requires such coolness and also because the mud that sticks on their bodies serves as protection against sun burns on their skin

they always seek the mud. Washing the pig clean will only keep the pig clean temporarily because the nature of the pig requires that it's muddy for it to be comfortable.

If you want the pig to stop returning to the mud, you have to find a way to change the nature of that pig that causes the pig to seek for comfort in the mud. You either create a cool environment devoid of the sun for the pig or change the nature of the pig through gene mutation.

This is why we become born-again: the man who is born of the flesh dies for the man who is born of the spirit; the man who is born of the spirit receives comfort in the place of fellowship with the Holy Spirit while the man who is born of his flesh achieves comfort in the place where he satisfies the lusts of his flesh. Both men pursue pleasures, one finds it in God and the other in fulfilling the lusts of his flesh. If you deny someone pleasure, you've denied him a basic need and sooner or later, he'll find another way to meet his lusts. The righteous man commits righteousness in his pursuit of pleasure in fellowship with God while the sinner commits sin in his pursuit of the pleasure of his flesh. Both righteousness and sin is the result of the pursuit of pleasure.

*You will show me the path of life: in your presence is fullness of Joy; At your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Ps. 16:11*

In the right hand of God are pleasures evermore and in His presence is fullness of joy. You find joy and pleasure in seeking God. While the pleasuring of one-self through the fulfillment of the lust of the flesh results to death, pleasuring oneself through fellowshiping with the Holy Spirit is pleasure and joy evermore.

Everyman is in pursuit of pleasure, either in fellowship with God or with his flesh. If he isn't born again, he'll seek pleasure in his flesh and if he is born again, he'll seek pleasure in his fellowship with God in the place of prayer and the study of the word of God.

If you want a man not to sin, to walk in righteousness, make that man a man of faith and you'll change the direction of his passion from seeking pleasure in the flesh to seeking it in the place of fellowship with the Spirit.

The man who is born of the flesh cannot repent, he may be remorseful for wrong doing but he can't just change things. If he finds a way to stop committing



immorality, his mind will be filled with the thought of it. Sin is the thought of evil and not just the acts.

Hating people is same as murder; if you have someone you aren't greeting or talking to, in the sight of the law, you are a murderer.

*Whoever hates his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. 1John 3:15*

If you look at any woman lustfully, in the eyes of the law, you are guilty of immorality.

*But I say unto you, that whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart. Matt. 5:28*

We gain victory over sin only when we are born in the spirit. In the flesh, we can't please God; we can only please God by faith (believing in Jesus Christ)

Sin is the response of man to his carnal instinct; the man needs to fulfill the lusts of his flesh before he could be okay and satisfied. If you want the man to live a life of righteousness, you have to introduce the life of faith to that man. Holiness is the response of man to his faith nature.

*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. Eph. 2:8-9*

Those who live by faith do not boast of works. Their good works is not the basis for salvation: good works is a fruitage of their fellowship with the Spirit of God and not the source of their faith with God. Their salvation is based only on their belief in Christ Jesus therefore they do not boast or seek to be recognized for their good works. Whoever boasts of righteousness is not righteous in the sight of God; righteousness is a miraculous act of God on the man who believes in Christ Jesus. Glory! Just as we believe God for healing, breakthrough, fruitfulness etc. we also believe God for righteousness. Righteousness is not what we do; it's what we believe God for.

Telling anyone to do good works to be saved is impossible. Salvation is the product of belief in Jesus Christ.

The Jews who promised to live by the law failed woefully therefore we shouldn't try what the Jews tried and failed. If we do, we'll fail likewise.

I promise '*not to fornicate again, steal again, lie again, and sin again etc*'. May sound great but this isn't what God calls us to do, He didn't call us to make promises to Him about keeping His law, instead, He calls us to put our faith in Him and when we do, we'll be made righteous miraculously.

Righteousness is the fruit of faith and not the cause of faith. We are righteous because we believe and not because of our works. To do the word of God is to believe in Jesus. This is the work of God, to believe in Jesus who is God sent. The law now is to believe in Christ Jesus. Whoever believes has obeyed all the law faultlessly. Glory!

## HOW DID THE PROBLEM OF SIN BEGIN?

Sin entered the world because Adam believed the devil above God and that totally transformed him into being a sinner. He now has to sin to be pleased with his body.

Adam was neither righteous nor sinful; he was innocent till he chose to disobey God and that made his desires after that moment sinful. Had he chosen to obey God, his desire would have eventually become righteous and there won't be any need for Christ to come.

It was a moment of choosing either righteousness or sinfulness and with the intervention of the devil, he unwittingly chose sinfulness and thus in him everyone became a sinner.

*Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned. Rom. 5:12*

His choice changed his desires and the natural instinct of every man born through him; the pleasure he was to be getting in the place of fellowshiping with God, he lost it for the place of pleasure in the flesh.

Eating that fruit was a choice that enthroned sinful desires. That was also how sin entered and becomes part of us.

When God came to fellowship with him, he rather found it as a shameful thing to fellowship with God because his nature has been tampered with when he made that choice to eat of that fruit he was commanded not to eat.

*So he said, 'I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself. Gen. 3:10*

Anyone who isn't born again will always find it difficult to fellowship with God because their sins will make them feel so ashamed of God's sacred presence and they'll hide themselves.

Sin came because of the transgression of Adam, in him all did sin. This was why God gave us another Adam (Christ Jesus) and his choice of righteousness transforms everyone who put their trusts in Him to live the life of righteousness. They'll no longer seek pleasure in their flesh but in the place of communion with God.

*For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Rom. 5:19*

When you change what pleases people, you'll change where they go to seek for pleasure and what they do to achieve same. Their sinful nature can only be transformed when they put their trust in Christ Jesus. Glory!

The disobedience of Adam made us sinners but the obedience of Christ made us righteous. Glory!

Many people have accepted to go to hell because they don't see themselves been able to overcome the lusts of their flesh. When you tell these kinds of people to change before they'll be accepted by God, they'll give up because they've tried over and over again in vain. But if you tell them to believe in Jesus Christ, that they'll miraculously overcome sin, they'll want to. Since they can't do it by themselves, they'll put their trust in Jesus Christ to help them. That's only when genuine salvation is appropriated. Amen!

If you can't live righteously by yourself, why not put your trust in the substitute that God has sent; Jesus Christ. When you believe in Christ, His righteousness will become yours. Glory!

## WHAT DID GOD DO ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF SIN

God introduced grace, grace means, one person can become righteous on behalf of everyone else and God became a man and became righteous for everyone who would believe in His atoning work.

So God's demand for righteousness will be required of Jesus Christ and Christ has fulfilled that requirement therefore whoever believes in Christ will be covered with the righteousness of Christ Jesus before God.

Therefore, God doesn't require you to do anything before He considers you righteous, He only wants you to believe in the one He has sent and that belief will be accounted unto you for righteousness. Amen!

When 11 people from France won the world cup, it was said that France (every French citizen) won the world cup; the achievement of the 11 on the field was accredited to an entire nation. The nation is as strong as their winning 11.

Likewise, when we come to Christ in faith, we are as righteous as Christ our representative in

righteousness.

This is why a Christian can't be more righteous than another Christian; we are all as righteous as Christ. Just like a new born baby is no less a human being to a fully grown adult even though the little child may not have all the features of a fully grown mature adult likewise, a new saved child of God is no less righteous than an adult in the faith. Amen!

*For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Cor. 5:21*

When God wants to judge anyone, He appropriates the righteousness of Christ to that person because such person believes in Christ.

Righteousness is the act of God, it's not the act of man therefore we must give up on trying to become righteous by ourselves and putting our trust in God.

One day I was chosen by my school to represent them in a competition. After the competition, my point wasn't represented that of my school and not of just me but every student of that school. My score is considered the score of my school because I am the representative of every student of my school. My



failure will be the failure of every student of my school that I am represented and my success the success of every one of them. Jesus represented everyone who would believe in Him throughout all generations, His righteousness becomes the righteousness of all those who believes in Him.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ? If your answer is in the affirmative, then no one is more righteous than you. Glory!

## THE ACTIVE WORK OF CHRIST

*Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. Heb. 7:25*

If you come to God through your good works, this isn't for you. This is for those who came to God through Christ Jesus and not their good works. The salvation of those who came to God through Christ is so secured because Christ always live to make intercession for them.

*Who is there to condemn us? For Christ Jesus, who died, and more than that was raised to life, is at the right hand of God--and He is interceding for us. Rom. 8:34*

Nothing can condemn us because of the active works of Christ in interceding for us. No devil can discredit us before God because we came to God through Christ and Christ is actively making intersection for us.

We don't need to be afraid that at any point that our salvation will be lost. As long as we believe in Christ Jesus, our salvation is secured. Glory!

Christ is our Intercessor (Heb. 7:25), He is our Advocate (1 John 2:1) and He is our Righteousness (1 Cor. 1:30)

This is why we need to come to God through Christ, any other way of coming to God is not the right way.

## WHAT ABOUT SIN, DOES IT MATTER WHETHER WE SIN OR NOT?

When you come to Christ, you no longer struggle with sin; it will no longer have dominating influence over your life. You'll rather be more conscious about expressing more of the righteousness of God.

Sinning will always put us in an uncomfortable place. A man was a chain-smoker; he has become addicted to smoking that if you want to make him uncomfortable, separate him from his cigar. But one day, he received Christ into his life and one day, he wanted to take a cigar, immediately he lighted it, the smoke choked him badly and he hated that feeling, which was how he stopped smoking.

Righteousness is the act of God; it's not the product of the discipline of man.

When you put your trust in Christ, your life no longer become comfortable in the place of sin, when you sin, you lose your peace, joy and comfort and because it's not the right place for you, repentance becomes instant.

The reason a fish can't walk on land is the same reason a righteous man can't sin. Sin will destroy his

peace, comfort and pleasure and these will make him seek immediate repentance.

*Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. 1 John 3:9*

If you find a fish outside of water, you'll pity it because that fish is about to die in pain and discomfort since its nature doesn't enable it to exist outside of water likewise the one who believes in Jesus, he can't survive outside of Christ or live in sin, things will be miserable for him till he is restored in fellowship with God.

Just like the sinner can't live a righteous life, a believer can't live a sinful life because it is against his nature. If you believe in Christ, there is nothing as miserable as sinning. It's very important you know what to do immediately you sin; remember what Christ did for you, confess it and walk out of that sin in total repentance.

## DOES THE BELIEVER LOSE FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD BECAUSE OF SIN?

<sup>8</sup> *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

<sup>9</sup> *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

<sup>10</sup> *If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.* 1 John 1:8-10

I would have used this bible passage except this passage is written for the man who isn't born again. God is faithful to forgive such men and cleanse them from all unrighteousness but the believer does not lose fellowship with God when he is in error.

When the believer sins, all he needs to do is to remember who he is, the righteousness of God in Christ, the eternally forgiven and the cleansed. If the believer doesn't remember who he is in Christ, he won't enjoy fellowship with God and victory over sin.

The believer doesn't lose fellowship with God because he sinned, the reason being, his righteousness has never been the basis of his fellowship with God; the basis of his fellowship

with God has always and will always be on the righteousness of Christ.

*What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness? Not at all!...Rom. 3:3,4 (NIV)*

What Christ did to make us acceptable to God is greater than what we do. Therefore, our unfaithfulness and sin doesn't destroy our relationship with God.

When we sin, we don't lose fellowship with God because it was never our righteousness that caused fellowship with Christ, it only indicates that we are still babies in the faith, we are yet to practice living the life of faith and we are not making progress in spiritual things and this will limit how much we enjoy the benefits of living the life of faith.

The believer is also not going to hell because of his sin, because no believer is going to heaven because of their righteousness therefore if it's not your righteousness that is taking you to heaven, it won't be your sin that'll deny you heaven. The believer is going to heaven on the basis on his believe in the Savior, Jesus Christ.

The unbeliever is going to hell not because of their sins either but because they do not have the savior. On Judgment day, God will judge us thus; is he clothed in the righteousness of Christ, if it's 'Yes', heaven, 'No', Hell.

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

The consequence of sin is death but the savior came to save us from that, therefore if you believe in the savior, you've been saved. You can only lose your salvation when you reject The Savior and not when you sin.

*My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 1 John 2:1*

When the believer sins, it shows that he is still a baby in faith, but his advocate makes sure his sins doesn't make him lose fellowship with God or go to hell.  
*John 1:29*

*The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"*



The sins of those who believe in God have been taken away in the sight of God. This is important that you understand that God doesn't take note of your sins because you've been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. If you are putting on a fine suit, no one notices your singlet or pant if they are clean or not; torn or new.

### *Acts 4:12*

*Salvation exists in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."*

Our salvation does not exist in our acts, whether righteous or sinful but in the name of Jesus in whom we believe. Therefore if our salvation does not exist in our righteous act, we won't lose it because of our unrighteous acts. Glory!

Our salvation is eternal as long as we have not rejected The Savior in whom we are saved and under the care of the advocate whom God chose for us. It won't be sin that'll take people to hell but their unbelief in The Savior and Advocate chosen by God for man.

## IS THE MESSAGE OF JOHN POSSIBLE TODAY?

*And saying, Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matt. 3:2*

That was the message of John the Baptist, ignorantly; many evangelists are preaching this message to sinners today. John preached to the Jews, a people who have historically failed to stay repented. Their failure is a lesson to us that the sinner cannot sincerely repent for a long time because we need to change our desires, if we want to change our lusts.

Therefore we need to preach the message of Christ; we need to be born again. It is only when we are born with new desires can we overcome our old lusts.

The old has passed away, the old ways and its desires therefore we don't need to struggle with fulfilling the lust of the flesh because the flesh has been replaced with the spirit.

*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Cor. 5:17*

A young man who has diabetes was always peeing. He was in a conference where people were not allowed outside during the lecture more than twice. Because of his health condition, he wasn't allowed inside after he went out for the second time to pee. Because he was so desperate to take the course, he decided to use a napkin. He was able to stay for a longer period but eventually, the napkin got full of his pee and he couldn't stay through the conference.

But one day, he was cured of the diabetes and when he went for the conference again, he was able to stay through the conference without exhausting the number of times he was required to go out.

When he wasn't cured, disciplining himself by using napkin worked temporarily but he was only able to fulfill the conference requirement when he got cured of the health condition that had caused him to break the rules.

The sinner is like that man with diabetes, who couldn't keep the conference requirement because of his health condition. Teaching him to be strong-willed and resolute not to go back to sin again is telling him to use napkin. Whether you like it or not, the napkin would soon get filled and such man will fail again. But teaching Him to receive Christ will

cure him and he won't have that condition that requires him failing to the requirements of the laws. Preaching Christ cures, it makes us want to commit righteousness and not sin.

## THE DISCIPLES PREACHED, JESUS THE CHRIST.

**but we preach Christ crucified...1Cor. 1:23**

**And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ. Acts 5:42**

**Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them. Acts 8:5**

**To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ. Eph. 3:8**

The disciples preached Christ. They weren't preaching '*Don't commit sin, if you do, you'll go to hell.*' Rather they preached about the savior because that's all we need if we want to make it to heaven and grow in the righteousness of Christ. It is only when we preach Christ that's only when we are preaching the gospel.

*John 3:18, NIV: "Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son."*

The word of God says that whoever that doesn't believe in Jesus is the condemned person and not whoever that stopped sinning so it is very important

that we don't preach 'thou shalt not sin' rather lets preach about the savior sent by God to deliver us from the dominating influence of sin. No man can stop sinning by himself without the Savior Jesus Christ. Therefore preach Christ like the disciples did and not sin.

## HOW DID PAUL DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF SIN

<sup>15</sup> For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

<sup>16</sup> If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good.

<sup>17</sup> Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

<sup>18</sup> For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

<sup>19</sup> For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

<sup>20</sup> Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

<sup>21</sup> I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

<sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

<sup>23</sup> But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

<sup>24</sup> O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

<sup>25</sup> I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin **Romans 7:15-25**

Apostle Paul struggled with sin till he took away his attention from trying to overcome sin and concentrate on Christ and thus he gained the victory over sin.

When I was learning how to ride a bicycle, my instructor gave me one simple principle, he said, if you want to learn how to ride, you must look forward and not at the pedal.

It didn't make sense that looking forward will make me ride the bicycle perfectly, I thought that looking at the pedal will make me ride it perfectly. I learnt how to ride immediately I started looking away from the pedal and looking forward.

Likewise, if you concentrate on your sin, meditate on it daily, no matter how much you hate it and repent from it, you'll keep falling back into it. But when you look unto Jesus, you'll ride in righteousness unconsciously because Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith; He makes our faith life work. Amen!

*looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith... Heb 12:2*

Have you been struggling with sin? Look unto Jesus and you will rise over the dominating influence of



that sin over your life. Overcoming sin would no longer become your struggles because of He whom you are looking up unto.

A lady was struggling with masturbation, she is a believer and she really wanted to stop. Everyday she thinks, what can I do to stop sinning, she kept making promises to God and failing, at a point, she became ashamed of praying because of the many promises she had made to God and failed. This started limiting her prayer life and many other things began to fall out of place in her life. One day, she spoke with me and I told her to identify what God has done for her in Christ about her issue. That she is forgiven and sin no longer have dominion over her. She declared, 'I believe in Jesus, I've been forgiven and I have dominion over sin. The more she said that, the bolder she became and that was how she dealt with the problem of masturbation'.

No matter the sin that has clived to you, if you consistently hold on unto God's word; what God has done for you through Christ, you'll rise above the power of sin. Instead of crying to God and promising repentance, pray with words, declare the promises of God to keep you away from sin and you'll be kept away from sin.

The life of righteousness is 100% the work of God, if you approach it from your flesh, you'll always fail but if you see it as the act of God, you'll live in righteousness without struggles.

Just like other miracles that, righteousness is miracle and we should treat it as such to experience it constantly in our life. The way God wrought healings, resurrecting the dead etc is the same way He wrought the miracle of righteous living therefore we should believe God for the life of righteousness as we believe Him for healing and other miracles. This was why Paul thanked God for his victory over sin just as he'll thank God for any other miracles.

But trying by yourself to overcome it may sound noble and moral but you'll only gain temporal victory over sin.

**FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD**  
**...faith without works is dead...James 1:26**

Works of righteousness is the fruitage of salvation and not the cause of it. It was because Abraham had faith that was why He could sacrifice his only son. He had faith that God is able to fulfill His promise to him. When we have faith, it becomes evident in our work. Moral uprightness is the fruit of the spirit and not the root.

**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, Joy, Peace, Forbearance, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control...Gal. 5:22-23**

All these are fruits, when you have the spirit of God; these fruits begin to show up gradually as you mature in Christ. These fruits are not the cause of your salvation but the fruit of your salvation.

Good works follow the saints, it doesn't lead the saints.

*And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works follow them. Rev. 14:13*

Yes, good works doesn't produce relationship with God; rather relationship with God produces good works and moral uprightness.

## BE SOBER

*prepare yourself to do the word*

**1 Peter 1:13**

*Therefore prepare your minds for action. Be sober-minded. Set your hope fully on the grace to be given you at the revelation of Jesus Christ*

To be intentional about doing the word of God to the letter make conscious effort to express the love of God to others, treat people the way God treats you, learn to love them the way God loves you.

Show mercy to people just the way you've received mercy from God

*Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee? Matthew 18:33-35...*

Treat others with greater respect irrespective of their position in life.

*Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Outdo yourselves in honoring one another. Rom. 12:10*

*Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Eph. 5:21*

Give to God and others just as God gave to you *Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again. Luke 6:38*

*Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not out of regret or compulsion. For God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.... Eph. 9:6-8*

Honor your pastors and those who teaches you God's word

*Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. 1 Tim 5:17*

Be responsible to your family

*But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. 1 Tim. 5:8*

Put others first, prefer others before you.

*Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Phil. 2:3*

Bear one another's burden; whenever someone is heavily burdened, render a helping hand. Don't accommodate any excuse not to be of help, go to every extent to help and therefore fulfil the law of Christ.

*Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Gal. 6:2*

Be deliberate about evangelism. Spread the word directly or indirectly.

*And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15*

Be true with your words, say what you mean and mean what you say

*But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil. Matt. 5:37*

Doing God's word is like putting on a seat belt while driving, it's for your own safety. Allowing the Spirit

of God to lead you is setting up yourself for profit irrespective of your field of endeavors.

*Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, Who teaches you to profit, Who leads you by the way you should go. Isaiah 48:17*

Those who are of faith submit to the leading of the Spirit of God because as they do, they walk into what's best for them and enjoy lots of profit. No one who is led by God suffers loss.



## THE JUSTIFIER OF THE UNGODLY

*But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. Rom. 4:5*

The bible introduced God as the justifier of the ungodly. If you can be godly by yourself, He won't take it upon Himself to justify you.

A man wanted to train an apprentice in martial art, but this apprentice kept telling this new master about various styles he has learnt by himself. This master didn't teach him much till he went to a martial art competition and lost woefully. When he came back to this new master, he asked him, why did I lose again? The master showed him a glass of water that is filled with a liquid unfit for consumption and then he told him, if you want to fill this cup with drinkable water, you first empty it of the unfit liquid. Then he looked at him and said, if you want me to train you, you must come to me empty. Thrash everything you know then you'll become teachable. The young man did so and that was how he got trained, went back and won the martial art competition.

If you come to God filled with your works of righteousness, you'll not be justified because God only justifies the ungodly, the sinner and the unrighteous. First empty yourself of your supposed good works and put yourself in the same shoes of murderers, prostitutes, liars, robbers etc. when you come to God and He'll justify you. Glory!

*To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. Rom. 3:26*

You can receive Christ into your life today, thrashing your righteousness so that you can be clothed in the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. Jesus only justifies (Declare righteous) those who believes in Him and not those who trust in their righteousness.

*Say, 'Lord Jesus I invite you into my heart, I confess you as my Lord and Savior, my Advocate and my Justifier. I declare that I'm born again; I'm now your child; saved by your grace In Jesus name. Amen.'*

## CAN A BELIEVER BACKSLIDE?

*How much more severely do you think one deserves to be punished who has trampled on the Son of God, profaned the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and insulted the Spirit of grace? Heb. 10:29*

The answer is 'Yes' but not when he commits sin. He can only backslide when he consciously rejects *The Savior*. Our text says '*when we trample on the Son of God, profane the blood of the covenant that sanctified us, and insult the Spirit of grace*'. But as long as you believe in the Savior, nothing can separate you from the love of God. God loved us while we were yet sinners (Rom. 5:8), what else can we do now that we've not done before, yet God loved us enough to die for us. The only thing that can make us separate ourselves is when we reject The Savior, the one only in whom we are declared righteous. When you reject Christ consciously that's only when you've lost the faith and this will lead you to deliberately sin against God to express your hatred for Him because before you can reject The Savior, you must have developed hatred for God and therefore reject His offer of grace through His Son Jesus Christ.

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### **Other books by Pastor Promise**

The Acts of Healing  
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Depression  
Etc

## **ABOUT THE BOOK**

Sin doesn't take anyone to Hell, unbelief in Jesus does, is a book meant to explain and simplify the gospel of Christ. Sadly, most preachers don't preach Christ today; they simply preach sin and encourage self righteousness. But this book will help the ready know exactly what the gospel of Christ is and how to bring the sinner to salvation in Christ Jesus.

## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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