

## DO NOT SIN ANYMORE

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John 5:10-18

1. Last week we focused on what we could learn from the incident that just preceded these verses we will deal with this morning.

2. Jesus had healed a man of an affliction that had plagued him for thirty-eight years.

3. When Jesus commanded, "Get up, pick up your pallet and walk," the man was instantly healed and began to do what Jesus told him to do.

4. Some of the Jews saw the man carrying his pallet on the Sabbath and told him it was not permissible to do so.

5. He responded that he was simply obeying the man that had made him well.

NOTE: A lot of issues would be resolved in our lives if we who profess to be Christians would simply obey Jesus Christ.

6. Later on Jesus found that man He had healed in the temple and said to him, "Behold, you have become well; do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse happens to you."

NOTE: We see a similar situation in John 8:11 where Jesus said to the woman caught in the act of adultery, "Go. From now on sin no more."

7. What I want us to think about this morning is this; was Jesus' command to not sin anymore possible to obey?

8. What is the difference between Jesus' command to, "Get up, pick up your pallet and walk," and His command, "Do not sin anymore?"

9. Was the one possible and the other impossible; is God's grace available to do one, but not the other?

10. We are not talking about sinless perfection, but we are talking about the ability to live the life God wants us to live.

11. I believe that there are three primary reasons why many professing Christians do not experience victory over sin.

a. They have not been born again.

b. They do not believe that victory over sin is possible.

c. They do not really want to experience victory.

NOTE: They do want to possess eternal life, but they do not want to relinquish control of their lives to Jesus Christ.

12. If we are genuine followers of the Lord Jesus Christ we are without excuse when it comes to obeying God.

### I. We possess the mind of Christ.

A. Having repented we have exchanged our carnal, fleshly mind for the mind of Christ, and we now possess the ability to think, discern, and communicate spiritually.

1. Isa 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near. 7 Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the Lord, and He will have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. 8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 8:5-8

For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, (set their minds on) the things of the Spirit. 6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, 7 because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

3. 1 Corinthians 2:14-16

But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. 15 But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one. 16 For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, THAT HE WILL INSTRUCT HIM? But we have the mind of Christ.

4. Acts 5:29-32

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. 30 "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross. 31 "He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance (a change of mind and direction) to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. 32 "And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him."

5. Romans 12:1-2

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing (renovation, complete change for the better) of your mind, so that you may prove (discern) what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

B. Having presented ourselves to God, and having received an abundance of grace (Romans 5:17) we are enabled to obey Colossians 3:1-11.

Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your (renewed) mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. 3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. 6 For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, 7 and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. 8 But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices, 10 and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him — 11 a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

C. Paul's testimony related to his encounter with Jesus Christ can provide us added insight. Acts 26:12-20

"While so engaged as I was journeying to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, 13 at midday, O King, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining all around me and those who were journeying with me. 14 "And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew dialect, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' 15 "And I said,

'Who are You, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. 16 'But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you; 17 rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, 18 to open their eyes (the eyes of their minds) so that they **may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God**, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.' 19 "So, King Agrippa, I did not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, **that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.**"

### **APPLICATION**

1. Those who follow Christ are those who have repented towards God.
2. They have turned from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to the dominion of God.
3. They now possess the mind of Christ, they are clothed in the righteousness of Christ, and they are being conformed to the image of Christ.
4. Like Paul, they can do all things through Christ who strengthens them." Philippians 4:13
5. Next week we will expand on what we have learned so far.