

THE RIGHTEOUS PURSUES HOLINESS

Chapter 2 Lesson 11

Chapter's Subject: Created Anew in Righteousness and True Holiness

Main Point: Called Out (Part E3)

Today's Study: Additional Information:

1. Sin Emphasis Continues
2. The Reality of Human Sin
3. Closing Thoughts: Wholesome Life
4. Selected Hymns

Time is available for only a brief discussion of review questions from previous lesson.

I. Sin Emphasis Continues.

A. Distinction is Necessary (1 John 3:4-10)

This emphasis is being made because there is a prevailing attitude of insensitiveness in regards to sin. Unfortunately, many pulpits have become silent on the sin factor and a great amount of professed believers revel in the pit of sin as the people "rose up to play" (Ex. 32:6).

We are not going to expound Ex. 32, as such would not be possible at this time. What we do have in Ex. 32 is an account of the golden calf, which was a breaking of the covenant between God and man. A lot can be learnt from the chapter and you are encouraged to prayerfully go through and allow God to reveal His truths, within the chapter to you. The Preacher's Outline Study Bible presented several pointers as to why these atrocious acts occurred (as we witness in Ex. 32) ... note:

1. Caused by impatience. Tired of waiting for the Promised Land.
2. Caused by pressure from the crowd.
3. Caused by suggesting evil to a weak leader.
4. Caused by disobeying God's commandments.
5. Caused by believing that deliverance is of man not of God
6. Caused by believing in false gods.
7. Caused by giving in to or fearing the crowd: Aaron made an idol.

These and other pointers can be used to be developed in great lessons.

What we have witnessed in Ex. 32 resulted also because it was a "**mixed multitude**" (Ex. 12:38). With such a mixture the account we have in Ex. 32, Num. 11 (v. 4); and throughout Israel's journey to Canaan and their history was also because of the "mixed multitude." The important message being conveyed in regards to this

mixture is the **importance of distinctiveness**, which must be evident between the professed child of God and the world.

Another outstanding example where we have seen the importance of maintaining distinction is found in 1 Sam. 6 and 1 Chron. 13, 15, and 16. Let's take a quick glance at this account. In their victory over Israel, the Philistines took the Ark of God as some sort of prized treasure and stored it among their god, Dagon. They learnt the hard way and after paying the consequences, decided to return the Ark of God to Israel. (Read 1 Sam. 4 through 7). The Philistines had captured and held the Ark for seven months (1 Sam. 4:11; 6:1); when it was returned to Israel it was kept at Kirjath-jearim, ten miles from Jerusalem (1 Sam. 7:2).

David finally decided to have the Ark returned to Jerusalem and while doing so was the right thing, he did it the wrong way which resulted in the death of Uzza (1 Chron. 13). **Time wouldn't allow but if carefully observed, David was following the way that the Philistines returned the Ark, which was totally inconsistent with the way God designed the Ark to be transported.**

When the Ark was transported in the correct way the results were different in comparison to when it was done incorrectly (1 Chron. 15-16). We cannot adopt the world's standards and incorporate them in the Church claiming they are means and way of worshipping God (remember, what happened when Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire on the altar Lev. 10:1-8). What we witnessed when David transported the Ark of God the Philistine's way (1 Chron. 13), is the fact that our life style and service to God must be in compliance with God's will and not based on the ways of the world. Worshipping God the Philistine's way is still not acceptable to the True and Living God, who requires His people to be distinctively different from the world.

2 Cor. 6:17 Amplified Bible

"So come out from among [unbelievers], and separate (sever) yourselves from them, says the Lord, and touch not [any] unclean thing; then I will receive you kindly and treat you with favor, [Isa. 52:11]."

Beloved, we give thanks for those who are walking in the light and even then we are cautioned to take heed (1 Cor. 10:12). It is also very important to stand in the gap for the weak and struggling, restoring in a spirit of love (Gal. 6:1-2). The Church (Universal) is saturated with a Hollywood type righteousness which is inconsistent with the Word, will and way of God. The distinction must be maintained between the righteous and the unrighteous and the difference is very much evident (1 John 3:4-10; etc.).

Unfortunately, messages of this nature are not always welcomed by some but the Word of God remains the same. Let's return to Ex. 32 and briefly note verses 26 and

27. As a result of what occurred there was a summon for distinction among the people and that is still true today!! If you remember, we noted in another lesson that Israel was called to be a holy people (Lev. 11:44, 45; 19:1, 2). In regards to Ex. 32:26, 27), we have time for only brief comments.

1. **“Who is on the Lord’s side?” (v. 26).** Moses’ call for loyalty to God reflects the principle that **in the midst of spiritual decline and apostasy, the only path for the faithful is the one marked out by decisive obedience to God’s law and clear separation from apostasy.**
2. God is holy, pure, and righteous! Therefore, He executes justice upon people (Ps. 62:12; Jer. 17:10; Matt. 16:27; etc.).
3. **God demands first place in our lives!!** (Num. 3:13; Deut. 26:2; 1 Kings 17:13; Matt. 6:33).
 - (a) The true believer will put God first, even above self and family (this is not neglecting family responsibilities but putting God first Matt. 16:24; 19:27; Luke 14:26, 33; 18:29)
 - (b) No man can truly follow Christ who does not put Him first (*He will be Lord of ALL or not Lord at ALL!! **FIRST is First!! Give Him FIRST PLACE!!***) (Matt. 12:30; Luke 11:23; 16:13).

I encourage you to prayerfully read Ex. 32; there are many lessons within this chapter. Here are a few topics found: Depravity (v. 7), Forsaking God (v. 8), Intercession (v. 11), Apostates (v. 23), Pollution of Sin (v. 24), **Separation** (v. 26), Sin Rebuked (v. 30), etc.

I will stress again and again that sin and righteousness cannot blend and we have seen this fact throughout the Bible and these accounts are recorded for our admonition (See 1 Cor. 10, NB Vv. 11-12). In Joshua 7 we have an account of Israel’s sin, although it was one man that had caused such a reproach on the entire nation. Sin is a reproach to any people (Prov. 14:34) and a source of hindrance, obstruction, defeat, etc. to the camp. Joshua had to get rid of the root cause of the problem before any normalcy was restored to the nation (Josh. 7:10-13). There is help today for anyone in need of victory over sin (1 John 1:5-10; 2:1-3; etc.); help is available to all who are willing and obedient (Isa. 1:18, 19; 55: 1, 6, 7)

B. Synopsis of 1 John 3:9

The following is a quote from Life in the Spirit Study Bible.

“ . . . he cannot sin . . . ” (1 John 3:9)

“This means that no one who is born of God “continue to sin,” “practice sin,” or “keeps on sinning.” The verb “to sin” (*Greek hamartano*) is a present active infinitive, implying continued action. **John emphasizes that those who are truly born of God cannot make sin their way of life, because the life of God cannot**

exist in those who make a practice or habit of sinning (1 John 1:5-7; 2:3-11, 15-17, 24-29; 3:6-24; 4:7-8, 20).

1. The new birth produces spiritual life that results in an ever-present relationship with God. In this epistle, each time John speaks of the new birth of the believer he uses the Greek perfect tense to emphasize the continued and sustained relationship that the new birth gives (1 John 2:29; 3:9; 4:7; 5:1, 4, 18).
2. For people to have God's life in them (i.e. born of God) and to go on habitually sinning is a spiritual contradiction. Believers **may** occasionally lapse from God's high standard, but they will not continue in sin deliberately, as a lifestyle (1 John 3:6, 10).
3. That which keeps the faithful from sinning deliberately and habitually is "[God's] seed" in them, i. e. God's very life, spirit and nature dwelling in them (1 John 3:1-10; 5:11-12; John 15:4; 2 Peter 1:4).
4. By faith (1 John 5:4), the indwelling Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit and the written Word makes it possible for all believers to live moment by moment free from the entangling power of sin."

C. 1 John 3:10-17 (Outline with brief comments)

1. Summary of the Passage

True love for a brother is the most obvious mark of a Christian and is accounted righteous before God (1 John 3:10; 4:20-21). John's argument moves swiftly: Love has always been God's requirement (v. 11). Cain exemplifies the opposite of love (Vv. 12-15). Jesus perfectly reveals what love is (v. 16). We must show our love in practical ways as He (Christ) did (v. 17).

2. The Outline (with brief comments) 1 John 3:10-17

"IDENTIFIED BY LOVE"

(a) Love Reveals One's True Nature (1 John 3:10)

(1) It shows that one is either a child of God or of the devil.

(2) Who is not of God?

- The person who does not live righteously is not of God. The person who does not live a pure and holy life is not of God.
- The person who does not love his brother is not of God. The person who mistreats abuses, ignores, neglect or takes advantage of his brother is not of God.

(3) Our lives reveal exactly whose child we are.

- The person who lives a righteous life and who loves his brother takes his nature from God.
- The person who lives an unrighteous life and who mistreats his brother takes his nature from the devil.

(b) Love is the Message Heard from the Very Beginning (1 John 3:11)

- (1) The validity test! Loving others is one of the very first things God said to man (Lev. 19:18).
- (2) See also 1 John 2:7-11
- (3) This came among the principal tenets of practical Christianity that we should love one another.
- (4) We should love the Lord Jesus, and value His love, and consequently love all areas that are associated with serving Him and to love all our brethren in Christ (Matt. 22:37-40; Mark 12:29-31).

(c) **Love Does not Persecute the Righteous (1 John 3:12-13)**

- (1) Cain represents the extreme case of persecution that results in murder.
 - Abel believed God and worshipped Him as He required, Cain did not worship as God desired.
 - God accepted Abel's worship and offering but rejected Cain's.
 - God blessed and took care of Abel which caused Cain to become jealous and eventually murdered his brother.
- (2) They were brothers but Cain did not love Abel, therefore he murdered him!
 - A person who truly loves his brother will not persecute him.
 - See John 15:12; Rom. 12:9; 13:8-10; etc.
- (3) If we love Christ, then the world will persecute us.
 - The world is controlled by serpent-like spirit, therefore, be not alarmed that the world will hate you.
 - Matt. 24:9; Luke 6:22-23; 21:17; John 15:19; etc.
- (4) The genuine believer will love with a fervent heart (Col. 1:4; 1 Peter 1:22; 2:17; 1 John 3:14; etc.

(d) **Love is the Proof that One Has Passed from Death to Life (1 John 3:14)**

- (1) The death referred to here is spiritual death and eternal damnation.
 - This is a person who is separated from God because of sin.
 - It is a person who is dead while he still lives (1 Tim. 5:6; Col. 2:13).
 - He is a natural man living in this present world, but he is said to be dead to Jesus Christ and to God and to spiritual matters (1 Cor. 2:14; etc.)
- (2) Love for the brethren is a better evidence than love for the sinful world, because if one cannot love "the children of God," how could he love the unregenerate.
 - Love of the brethren, then becomes a standard for determining one's conversion from sin.
 - Jesus Christ is the One who saves us from death and gives us life (Eph. 2:1-10). This is a fact, once He has saved us we will naturally love our brothers and sisters (1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 4:7; etc.)

(e) Love Does Not Hate! (1 John 3:15)

(1) This should be clearly understood but unfortunately it is not!

- Many feel they are acceptable to God and God will never reject them, yet they have all kinds of negative feelings and bitter resentments for others.
- **Here are a FEW examples of these negative attitudes**

- dislike	- discord
- anger	- sourness
- bitterness	- resentment
- envy	- irritability
- jealousy	- destructive criticism
- rivalry	- slander
- un-forgiveness	- Etc.

(2) Note carefully: “Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer... (1 John 3:15 KJV).

(3) Here, John echoes Jesus’ teaching that whosoever hates another person is a murderer at heart (Matt. 5:21, 22).

- **Christianity is a religion of the heart; outward compliance alone is not enough.**
- Bitterness against someone who has wronged you is an evil cancer within you and will eventually destroy you.
- Oh Beloved!! Don’t let a “poisonous root of bitterness (Heb. 12:15) grow in you or your church!!

(4) The motive is always prior to the overt (open) act. And he who has murder in his heart cannot, at the same time, be possessor of eternal life!!

(f) Love is Proof that One Understands the Love of Christ (1 John 3:16)

(1) **“He laid down His life for us ...” (1 John 3:16)**

- Jesus is the source and motivation of this love.
- His sacrifice puts us under perpetual obligation to love others actively and sacrificially.

(2) Real love is an action not a feeling.

- It produces selfless sacrificial giving (1 Cor. 13).
- The greatest act of love is giving oneself for others. But how do we give our lives for others?
 - By serving others with no thought of receiving anything in return.
 - **It is so much easier to SAY we’ll die for others rather than genuinely live for them because this involves putting others first.**

- Jesus taught this same principle of love in John 15:13.
- (3) It is also important to remember when Jesus died, it was . . .
- . . . when we were without strength, totally unable to help ourselves (Rom. 5:6).
 - . . . when we were ungodly (Rom. 5:6).
 - . . . when we were sinners (Rom. 5:8)
 - . . . when we were enemies of God, rebelling, neglecting, ignoring, denying, and rejecting God (Rom. 5:10).
- (4) Despite who we were Jesus paid the price, the ultimate price for our sins with His precious, holy life!! (Isa. 53; Gal. 1:4; 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18).
- (5) Indeed, the hymn speaks well of the facts:
- The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell
It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell
The guilty pair, bowed down with care
God gave His Son to win
His erring child He reconciled
And pardoned from his sin.
- (6) **1 John 3:16 ESV**
“By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.”

(g) Love Has Compassion and Gives to Meet the Needs of People (1 John 3:17)

- (1) Love has compassion and gives to meet the needs of people.
- The verse (1 John 3:17) is a question but the answer is clearly seen.
 - We are talking about the basic necessities of life, livelihood, the means to sustain life.
 - If we have what it takes to help?
 - How can we close our hearts against those in need?
 - How can we shut our feeling for them?
 - How can we keep from helping them and from sharing what we have?
 - If a person does this – how can we say the love of God dwells within us?
- (2) **As noted earlier, “Real love is action NOT feeling!”**
- Love is expressed by sincerely helping persons in need, i.e. by sharing our earthly possessions with them (James 2:14-17).
 - To refuse to give our food, clothing or money to help others in real need means we are closing our hearts from them (Deut. 15:7-11).

- **This also includes giving our money and (or as the need may arise) self to help spread the gospel to those in need (1 John 4:9, 10).**
- (3) God be praised for denominations and local congregations that are sincerely, consistently, etc. reaching out to those in need locally and internationally. The need is still great and more demanding which means that all of us need to do our part to the glory of God.
- (4) I do need to close but allow me to draw your attention to the “Care Commission” in Matt. 25:31-46. Time is available for only this brief challenge and hereby asks you to prayerfully and carefully read Matt. 25:31-46 and similar references and be obedient to the voice of God!!
- (5) I will close with these two brief pointers:
- If we close our eyes, our hearts, ignoring the needs of others then the love of God is not within us!!
 - We do not rejoice only when others rejoice but we weep when they weep, hurt when they hurt, etc.; may we, with love, reach out to those in need spiritual or temporal and do so with the love and compassion of God (Matt. 9:36; 14:14; 15:32; 20:34; Luke 7:1; etc.)

1 John 4:7-11 NKJV

“Beloved let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we love God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. **Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought to love one another.**”

D. Additional Definitions for Sin

We have defined sin in several preceding lessons; the following definitions are a listing of various other definitions as seen in Scriptures; some we have already noted in other lessons. In regards to the subject of sin this has been thoroughly discussed throughout this study because it is so important that we understand the subject in the light of God's Words especially in these days of compromise, confusion and ignorance (voluntary and involuntary). We hereby neither condemn, criticize, etc. anyone, we simply state the truth of God's Word to His praise and glory and we do so with love and compassion; hoping to help some struggling seaman!!

1. Sin is unbelief, the failure to believe God (Matt. 1:58; 17:20; Rom. 3:3; 4:20; 11:20, 23; 1 Tim. 1:1; Heb. 3:12, 19).
2. Sin is missing the mark, coming short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23)

3. Sin is an error, wandering off the right path (Rom. 1:27; James 5:20; 2 Peter 2:18; 3:17; Jude 11).
4. Sin is ungodliness and unrighteousness (Rom. 1:18; 11:26; 2 Tim. 2:16; Titus 2:12; Jude 15, 18).
5. Sin is transgression, a stepping outside the law (Rom. 3:23; 4:15; 5:13; Heb. 2:2; 9:15).
6. Sin is trespassing, intruding where one should not go (Eph. 2:1).
7. Sin is disobedience, a refusal to listen, hear and do (Eph. 2:12; 5:16; Col. 3:6).
8. Sin is lawlessness, rebellion and a rejection of God's will and law (1 John 3:4).
9. Sin is iniquity, an inward contempt that leads to the continual practice of sin (Matt. 7:2; Rom. 6:19; 2 Thess. 2:3; Rom. 1:21-23).
10. Sin is neglect of opportunity (Jams 4:17).
11. Sin is all unrighteousness (1 John 5:17).
12. Sin is vain talk (Prov. 10:19).
13. Sin is contempt for others (Prov. 14:21).
14. Sin is foolish thoughts (Prov. 24:9).

II. The Reality of Human Sin

A. The Adverse Effect of the Fall of Man

Mankind has always been trying to solve or suggest solutions for adverse situations experienced in life. In regards to problem solving, for so many, the solutions are sought through political means and yet we have seen political leaders with great promises and much aspirations; but who eventually accomplished very little or nothing worthwhile. Humanity continues to be plagued with so many problems and we do need to face the fact that **man's cardinal problem is the reality of human sin!** God created a wonderful universe for man (Gen. 1 and 2), and the worst thing that could ever enter the universe was sin. **Sin was the foulest monster that ever entered God's fair universe and continues to be the worst problem facing man.** When doctors try to cure diseases they need to find out the root cause of the problem being addressed before they can have it treated effectively. Beloved, sin is the root cause of every evil and it originates with Satan who sinned from the beginning (John 8:44). As we have seen in the Genesis account, the first adverse result of sin resulted from man's disobedience of God's command (Gen. 3).

Sin, as seen in the Bible, has to do with man in regards to his relationship with God. Every difficulty that man experience has its root in the result of sin and sin relates to man's relationship with God (*if he is in harmony with God you know he is living victoriously over sin; if he is living in sin he is living in disobedience to God's will and not experiencing a harmonious relationship with God*). The laws of our land speaks of crime and society is familiar with vice, but it is the Word of God that opens our eyes to the reality of sin and sin is seen as disgusting,

repulsive, offensive, immoral, etc.; it is indeed the foulest monster to enter God's fair universe!!

This I have stated before and unfortunately is a fact that the pulpits, in so many places, have gone silent on the reality of sin. I must state once more we are not advocating for us to minister without compassion, sincere care for others, etc. but we should not compromise the standards of God, yet, no matter how many changes the message of the Word of God to their liking, beloved, **“The Book Never Changes!!”**

Whenever it comes to the matter of sin, the Word of God never regarded the human race as rarely unfortunate, although most obviously we clearly see in the Bible the divine mercy and grace of God . . . “Mercy there was (is) great and grace was (is) free!!” **The Bible always treats man's condition (in sin) as guilty, and distinctly culpable, therefore destined for punishment.** (*“culpable”: blame worthy, at fault, guilty, etc.*).

1. The reality of sin's presence is a definite result of “The Fall.”
 - (a) The following reference **shows the awful fact** of “The Fall” (Gen. 3).
 - (b) These three references **place emphasis on the fact of sin and point out the wider result** (Rom. 5:12-21; 1 Cor. 15:21, 22; 1 Tim. 2:13-15).
2. Sin always comes with consequences which originally resulted because of “The Fall.” This we have seen before that because of “The Fall” **the entire human race has been affected** (Gen. 5:3; 6:5; 8:21; Psa. 51:5; Prov. 22:15; Jer. 17:9; Matt. 15:19; Mark 7:21-23; Rom. 5:19; 8:5-8; Gal. 5:16-21; Eph. 2:3)
3. This corruption (the depraved disposition of man because of inherited sin) noted above (item 2) can be observed in more details in the following examples **which show how sin extended to the entire human race:**
 - (a) The understanding is darkened (Eph. 4:18; 1 Cor. 2:14)
 - (b) The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked (Jer. 17:9)
 - (c) The mind and conscience defiled (Gen. 6:5; Titus 1:15)
 - (d) The will is enslaved (Rom. 7:18)
 - (e) The race is in bondage to Satan, sin, and death (John 8:31-47; Heb. 2:14, 15).

The above accounts are grim factors of this problem of sin and the lingering question is “How may a fallen and depraved soul find its way in favor with and likeness to God?” I am sure that you know the answer to this question and you may also see Chapter 1, lessons 1 through 3 as well as other lessons and the contents of this current study. I am not just pointing out the danger of the epidemic of sin but want it to be known that God has made a way out for the whosoever will!!

B. The Two-fold Nature of Sin

1. The Word of God states in very simple terms and makes it explicitly clear that the nature of sin is twofold.
 - (a) First, there is the **inward defilement** from which the acts of transgression are produced (Jer. 17:9; Mark 7:21).
 - (b) Second, the **act of transgression** which has its origin in the evil nature within (James 1:13-15; Gal. 5:19-21; etc.)
 - (c) **NOTE BRIEFLY (Jams 1:1-15):**
 - (1) Here, we see the typical **origin, progress** and **outcome of sin**.
 - (2) It is a movement downward, a moral spiral descent (note James 1:13-15):
 - **First**, come the thoughts
 - **Second**, this is followed by desires
 - **Third**, followed by acceptance
 - **Fourth**, acceptance is followed by action
 - **The Final outcome** is death (separation from God) (Gen. 3:6, 22-24)
 - **Beloved, evil desires are conceived when our will decides to act on them** (Gen. 3:6; Psa. 51:5; Matt. 15:19; James 1:15; 4:1)
2. The following is a quote from Dr. Harry E. Jessop, author of Foundations of Doctrine.

“The order of human recognition when the soul is seeking deliverance is of necessity, inverted: the transgressor, naturally being burdened with the thoughts of acts of sin committed for which he feels guilty, seeks forgiveness. Ere long, however, the emphasis shifts to something interior, namely, the inward nature, for it is by reason of the corrupt inward nature that the outward acts were produced, and it will continue to produce more sinful acts unless some adequate provision can be made to the contrary.”

(“invert”: to turn inwardly)
3. How does a penitent soul genuinely respond when he admits his sin?
 - (a) **The repentant (i.e. the remorseful, contrite, sorrowful, penitent) sinner will genuinely cry out “I have done!” (Read carefully Psalm 51).**
 - (1) You should also be acquainted with the background upon which the Psalm (Psalm 51) was written (for example see 2 Sam. 11, 12).
 - (2) Eventually, after an entire year of soul darkness the self-indulgent, the wanton king is finally seeking his way back to God.
 - (3) What we have here is the spiritual pathway David walked; it is a fact that God will extend His love and mercy to those that genuinely and diligently seek Him.

**Just as I am without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd’st me come to Thee
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

- (4) We also have in this Psalm (Psa. 51) the contrast of confession:
- In verse 4, we have the confession of sin committed.
 - In verses 5-10, we have the confession of sin inherited.
- (b) **In regards to the sincerely convicted believer, his cry of humble admission is: "I am."** (*Read carefully and prayerfully Isa. 6 with emphasis on verses 1-8*).
- (1) What we have here in this account (Isa. 6) is not an ungodly man who is conscious of his lost and hopeless condition but a servant of God that already knows the grace and mercy of God and one who is conscious of his inward corruption (see his confession in verse 5).
- (2) As we have in this situation with Isaiah the problem is not with sinful action but one of an inward condition.
4. Dr. E. Jessop in Foundations of Doctrine, quoted from the Handbook of Salvation Army Doctrine, page 53, the following:
 "Man is sinful in two ways:
- (a) **He has a sinful nature.** He is born with an inclination or tendency to evil. His heart is wrong; he prefers his own way to God's way. This depravity or disposition to sin affects every part of man's being, and it renders him unable, by his own efforts, to deliver himself (Psa. 51:5; Rom. 7:17; Eph. 2:3).
- (b) **He commits sinful acts.** Those, although the outcome of his sinful nature, are yet done by his own choice. All men are thus themselves guilty of transgressing God's law (Rom. 3:12, 23).
5. I know that I have noted several definitions for sin, however, allow me to note the following two terms which further explain the two-fold nature of sin.
- (a) **Sin is an outward manifestation.**
- (1) This is referring to **the act of sin**.
- (2) Sin is committed in one of three ways:
- By how we may think ... which refers to sinning in thought
 - By how we may speak ... which refers to sinning in words
 - Demonstrated by our actions ... commonly referred to our deeds
- (3) All sins are committed in one of these three ways ("thought," "words" or "deeds.") The same fact applies to the sins of omission; the sins of omission occur only in one of these three ways.
- (b) **Sin as an inward quality.**
- (1) This we have discussed before where we noted that sin is inherited.
- (2) Such is a reality because of "The Fall." "The Fall" refers to when Adam and Eve fell by transgression, and falling from their original state of righteousness. The result is the corruption of the nature which has been passed down from Adam to his posterity (Rom. 5:12).

C. SPECIAL NOTE:

In regards to the “Reality of Human Sin,” we have briefly dealt with one area **“The Problem”** as it relates to this topic, “The Problem,” there are other related areas that we do not have the time at this moment to discuss. As it relates to the **“Reality of Human Sin,”** there are several topics associated; such as: (1) **The Problem,** (2) **The Provision,** (3) **The Procedure,** (4) **The Package,** (5) Etc.

In closing, allow me to note that God, in His Word has not only made know “The Cardinal Problem” facing man that comes with all its disastrous results but **He has made “Provision” as well as other benefits that comes with our salvation.**

1. In regards to our deliverance from sin, allow me to briefly note the work of the Godhead :
 - (a) **It is by the Father** (John 3:16; 16:27; Rom. 8:3, 32; etc)
 - (b) **It is by the Son** (Matt. 1:21; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 5:25-27)
 - (1) His Calvary Work (Matt. 20:28; John 1:29; Gal. 1:4; etc.)
 - (2) His throne work (Matt. 28:18; Acts 1:9; 2:2-36; Heb. 1:3,4; 1 John 2:1, 2).
 - (c) **It is by the Holy Spirit.** By Him we realize the application of the divine purpose (John 16:7-11; 1 Cor. 12:3)
 - (1) In the Pentecostal outpouring:
 - Promise (Isa. 44:3; Joel 2:28, 29)
 - Fulfilled (Acts 1:4, 5; 2:1-21, 2).
 - (2) In the age-long outworking (John 7:39; 14:16, 17.26; 15:26, 27; etc.)
2. Disputed, doubted disregarded, etc. is the necessity of holiness as the standard of living required by God for his people (Lev. 11:44, 45; 19:2; 1 Peter 1:15, 16). As we saw in Chapter 1 Lesson 1 as well as in other lessons (of this study), holiness of life is possible because the Godhead is involved in making this experience a possibility and the very existence of the Church is a contributing factor in making this experience a possibility.
 - (a) **It is the will of the Father**
See: **1 Thess. 4:3;** Jude 1, Lev. 11:44, 45; 19:1; 1 Peter 1:15, 16.
 - (b) **It is the work of Christ**
See: **Heb. 13:12;** 1 Cor. 1:2; John 17, NB Vv. 1-20.
 - (c) **It is the ministry of the Holy Spirit**
See: **2 Thess. 2:13;** Rom. 15:16

Sin is man’s cardinal problem, the foulest monster to enter God’s fair universe and it is the root cause for all ills that beset man. Please note the following, as noted in the epistles of Paul:

- (a) Sin as a dominant tyrant (Rom. 6, 7)

- (b) Sin as a hereditary evil (Rom. 6:6; Eph. 4:22; Col. 3:9)
- (c) Sin as a unitary evil (Rom. 6:6; Col. 2:11)
- (d) Sin as a body of death (Rom. 7:24)
- (e) Sin as a downward drag (Rom. 8:2)
- (f) Sin as an inward enmity (Rom. 8:5-8)
- (g) Sin as corruption of the moral nature (Rom. 8:8; Gal. 5:16-21)

3. **“Here, then, is our problem – sin, inherited and committed. If it were only our problem we should be despairing indeed, but God has made the problem of sin His own. He and He alone can solve the problem of human sin, and what a glorious solution He has found!! HALLELUJAH!!!**

(a) **Acts 4:12 Amplified Bible**

“And there is salvation in and through no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by and in which we must be saved.”

(b) **Heb. 9:25-28 Amplified Bible**

“Nor did He [enter into the heavenly sanctuary to] offer Himself regularly again and again, as the high priest enters the [Holy of] Holies every year with blood not his own.

For then would He often have had to suffer [over and over again] since the foundation of the world. But as it is, He has once for all the consummation and close of the ages appeared to put away and abolish sin by His sacrifice [of Himself].

And Just as it is appointed for [all] men once to die, and after that the [certain] judgment,

Even so it is that Christ, having been offered to take upon Himself and bear as a burden the sins of many once and once for all, will appear a second time, not to carry any burden of sin nor to deal with sin, but to bring to full salvation those who are [eagerly, constantly, and patiently} waiting for and expecting Him.”

(c) **1 Peter 1:18, 19 Amplified Bible**

“You must know (recognize) that you were redeemed (transformed) from the useless (fruitless) way of living inherited by tradition from [your] forefathers, not with corruptible things [such as silver or gold. But [you were purchased] with the precious blood of Christ (the Messiah), like that of a [sacrificial] lamb without blemish or spot.”

4. The hymn: **All the Way to Calvary***Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir*

Chorus

All the way to Calvary,

He went for me,

He went for me

He went for me

All the way to Calvary

He went for me,

He died to set me free

Although I had so many sins

Jesus took them away

And pardon me.

III. Closing Thoughts – Wholesome Life

Obviously, we have not indicated in any way that one's wholesome life is based on material things. In fact Jesus cautioned: "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of things he possesses" (Luke 12:15).

Neither is the wholesome life is determined solely by one being externally impressive, in some situations that can be misleading, deceptive and vain, known as "false profession" (Psa. 78:35-36; Prov. 26:23; Ezek. 33:31-32; Matt. 7:21-23; Mark 7:6, 7; Titus 1:6). **The wholesome life that we have discussed is a righteous life which is possible only through Jesus Christ and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit as we live according to His leading and our obedience to the Word of God.**

The wholesome life is possible and although some have denied the possibility or they have twisted the truth their way, it is not only possible but available for the "whosoever will" (Isa. 55:1-7; John 4:14; Rev. 22:17; etc. It is experienced only through Jesus Christ (John 14:6; Acts 4:12).

Psa. 3:8 Amplified Bible

"O taste and see that the Lord [our God] is good! Blessed (happy, fortunate, to be envied) is the man who trust and take refuge in Him. [1 Peter 2:23]."

Below, I will be listing references that were used in previous lessons or that are relevant to the subject being studied. I cannot overemphasize the importance for us to continue focusing on the Word of God. This emphasis on the Word of God is greatly lacking among too many Christians who are now diverted to things that do not benefit them spiritually.

A. We began the wholesome life with the new birth through Jesus Christ.**1. 2 Cor. 5:17 Amplified Bible**

“Therefore if any person is [in-grafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away, Behold the fresh and new has come!”

2. Gal. 6:15 Amplified Bible

“For neither is circumcision [now] of any importance, nor uncircumcision, but [only] a new creation [the result of a new birth and a new nature in Christ Jesus, the Messiah].”

3. See also Ezek. 11:19; Eph. 4:4-7**B. This wholesome life is made evident by our lifestyle as we daily pursue Christlikeness.****1. 2 Cor. 3:18 NKJV**

“But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

2. 2 Peter 1:4 NKJV

“By which have been given to us exceeding great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

3. See also Rom. 8:29; 1 Cor. 15:49; Phil. 3:21; 1 John 3:2.**C. Let us steadfastly continue in the pathway of righteousness****1. Hosea 10:12 Amplified Bible**

“Sow for yourselves according to righteousness (uprightness and right standing with God); reap according to mercy and loving-kindness. Break up your uncultivated ground, for it is time to seek the Lord, to inquire for and of Him and to require His favor, till He comes and teaches you righteousness and rains His righteous gift of salvation upon you [2 Cor. 9:10].”

2. Phil.1:11 Amplified Bible

“May you abound in and be filled with the fruit of righteousness (of right standing with God and right doing) which comes through Jesus Christ (the Anointed One), to the honor and praise of God [that His glory may be both manifested and recognized].”

3. See also Daniel 4:27; Matt. 5:20; 1 Cor. 15:34; Eph. 4:24**D. Let us consistently, earnestly, sincerely, daily pursue a life of holiness, such is our reasonable service.****1. 2 Cor. 7:1 ASV**

“Having therefore these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of the flesh perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”

2. **2 Peter 3:11 Amplified Bible**

“Since all these things are thus in the process of being dissolve, what kind of person ought [each of] you to be [in the meanwhile] in consecrated and holy behavior and devout qualities.”

3. See also Lev. 11:44, 45; 19:2; Luke 1:74, 75; Heb. 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15, 16

4. **1 John 3:3 Amplified Bible**

“**And everyone who has this hope [resting] on Him (purifies) himself just as He is pure (chaste, undefiled, guiltless).**”

IV. **SELECTED HYMNS**

1. **The Cleansing Wave**

First the verses and Refrain

Oh, now I see the crimson wave,
The fountain deep and wide
Jesus, my Lord, mighty to save,
Points to His wounded side,

I see the new creation rise;
I hear the speaking Blood,
It speaks Polluted Nature dies!
Sink ‘neath the cleansing flood.

I rise to walk in heaven’s own light
Above the world and sin,
With heart made pure, and garments white
And Christ enthroned within.

REFRAIN

The cleansing stream, I see, I see!
I plunged and, oh it cleanses me!
Oh! Praise the Lord, it cleanseth me!
It cleanseth me, yes cleanseth me!

2. **Jesus Saves** (*First two stanzas*)

We have heard the joyful sound:
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Spread the tidings all around:
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Bear the news to every land;
Climb the steps and cross the waves
Onward! –’tis our Lord command
Jesus saves! Jesus saves

Waft it on the rolling tide:
 Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
 Tell to sinners far and wide:
 Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
 Sing ye islands of the sea:
 Echo back, ye ocean caves.
 Earth shall keep her jubilee
 Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

3. Give Thanks

By Don Meon

Give thanks with a grateful heart
 Give thanks to the Holy One
 Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son
(Repeat)

Give thanks with a grateful heart
 Give thanks to the Holy One
 Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
 Let the poor say, "I am rich"
 Because of what the Lord has done for us

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
 Let the poor say, "I am rich"
 Because of what the Lord has done for us
 Give thanks

Luke 2:27-32 Amplified Bible

"[Simeon] took Him up in his arms and praised and thank God and said, now, Lord, You are releasing Your servant to depart (leave this world) in peace, according to your word. For with my eyes I have seen your salvation [Isa. 52:10] which You have ordained and prepared before (in the presence of) all peoples, A light for revelation to the Gentiles [to disclose what was before unknown] and [to bring] praise and honor and glory to Your people Israel [Isa. 42:6; 49:6]."

Luke 4:18-19 Amplified Bible

"The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon Me because He has anointed Me [the Anointed One, the Messiah] to preach the good news (the Gospel) to the poor; He has sent Me to announce release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind,

to send forth as delivered those who are oppressed [who are downtrodden, bruised, crushed, and broken down by calamity].”

To proclaim the accepted and acceptable year of the Lord [the day “when salvation and the free favors of God profusely abound [Isa. 61:1, 2].”

Luke 19:9, 10 Amplified Bible

“And Jesus said to him, Today is [Messianic and spiritual] salvation come to [all the members of] this household, since Zacchaeus too is [real spiritual] son of Abraham; **For the Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost.**”

4. Victory in Jesus

By Eugene Bartlett

I heard an old, old story
How a Savior came from glory,
How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me;
I heard about His groaning,
Of His precious life atoning,
Then I repented of my sins
And won the victory.

CHORUS

O victory in Jesus
My Savior, forever,
He sought me and brought me
With His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him
And all my love is due Him. He plunged me to victory,
Beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about His healing,
Of His cleansing pow’r revealing.
How He made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see;
And then I cried, “Dear Jesus,
Come and heal my broken spirit.”
And somehow Jesus came and bro’t
To me the victory.

I heard about a mansion
He has built for me in glory.

And I heard about the streets of gold
 Beyond the crystal sea;
 About the angels singing,
 And the old redemption story,
 And some sweet ay I'll sing up there
 The song of victory.

5. The Comforter Has Come

Oh spread the tidings round, wherever man is found,
 Wherever human hearts and human woes abound;
 Let every Christian tongue proclaim the joyful sound
 The Comforter has come!

The long, long night is past; the morning breaks at last;
 And hushed the dreadful wail and fury of the blast,
 As o'er the golden hills the day advances fast!
 The Comforter has come!

Lo the great King of Kings, with healing in His wings,
 To every captive soul a full deliverance brings;
 And through the vacant cells the songs of triumph rings:
 The Comforter has come!

Oh boundless love divine! How shall this tongue of mine
 To wondering mortals tell the matchless grace divine
 That I a child of hell should in His image shine!
 The Comforter has come!

REFRAIN

The Comforter has come! The Comforter has come!
 The Holy Ghost from heav'n, the Father's promise giv'n!
 Oh spread the tidings round, wherever man is found;
 The Comforter has come!

2 Tim. 2:15

KJV: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Amplified Bible: "Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trials), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth."

Chapter 2 Lesson 11 Review Questions

1. (a) What account do we have recorded in Ex. 32? (b) List at least six reasons why the atrocious acts occurred as seen I Ex. 32?

2. In returning the Ark of God as recorded in 1 C hron.13, 15 and 16. Why did David fail in his first attempt and with one death; why was his second attempt different and what lessons are here in these accounts for us? (Answer briefly).

3. What principle is reflected in Ex. 32:26, in Moses' call for loyalty to God?

- 4. (a) Answer True or False (b) Explain your answer.
“No one can truly follow Christ who does not put Him first.” Give references.

- 5. Explain what is meant by the phrase: “... he cannot sin.” (1 John 3:9).

- 6. Complete the following:
“For (a) _____ to have (b) _____ life in them
(i.e. born of God) and to go on (c) _____ sinning is a
(d) _____ (e) _____.”

- 7. List the seven main pointers noted in our lesson as means that identify true love, seen in 1 John 3:10-17. (Do not include supporting pointers ... main pointers only; note related verses).

8. What makes it possible for the faithful to remain **from** deliberately and habitually sinning? Give references.

9. Explain how love reveals one's true nature (1 John 3:10).

10. Complete the following:

- (a) _____ is a religion of the (b) _____;
- (c) _____ (d) _____ is not
- (e) _____.

11. Explain: "Real love is action not feeling." (1 John 3:17)

12. Complete the following:

- (a) _____ was the foulest (b) _____ that ever
- (c) _____ God's fair (d) _____ and
- continues to be the (e) _____ problem (f) _____
- man.

13. Choose the correct answer to complete the following: "Sin as seen in the Bible has to do with man in regards to his _____

- _____.
- (a) relationship with friends
- (b) relationship with evil
- (c) relationship with wrong people
- (d) relationship with God.

14. What is it that opens our eyes to the reality of sin and how is it seen in this revealed source?

15. In our lesson, we noted ways that show the extent to which sin has been extended to the entire human race, list all five pointers with references.

16. In regards to "The Fall" (when Adam sinned) what does the following references show: (a) Gen. 3 (b) Rom. 5:12-21; 1 Cor. 15:21, 22; etc.?

17. Explain what is meant by the "two-fold nature of sin." Give references.

18. Give the origin, progress and outcome of sin as observed in James 1:13-15.

19. When are evil desires conceived? Give references.

20. Briefly explain how a penitent soul genuinely responds when he admits his sin. As it relates to: (a) The penitent sinner (b) the convicted believer. Give references.

21. Explain what is meant by (a) Sin is an outward manifestation (b) Sin is an inward quality.

22. Explain the work of the Trinity in our deliverance from sin. Give references.

We will discuss the answers to as many questions as possible in our next class.