



Identity as a Child of God



**Who are you? Sinner or Saint?
Do you Have to Sin?**



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You Do NOT Have to Sin! You are a Saint!

1 John 2:1 My dear children, I write this to you so that **you will not sin**. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

Why would John say this if it were not true? John said that he was writing what he was so that you WILL NOT SIN! Do you know what sin is? Can you sin by mistake??? Nope... Sin has to be intentionally doing something you know is sin in order to be sin. Sin is from your heart, crossing your heart. What is written on your heart?

James 1: 15 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

So, desire gives birth to sin... you choose to sin, but you don't have to. Believers don't want to sin. They have to choose it. Why would you?

John 8: 34-36 Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

Are you are child of God? If so, Jesus says that you are free from sin. Why would you want to believe some teachers who contradict Jesus and say you will only be free after you die and claim that you have to keep sinning in this world because you are human? Is that what Jesus said?

2 Corinthians 5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

*So, you have become the righteousness of God! Why not believe and live in this righteousness! You came to God for a **new life**, not a better life. You wake up with a new reason for living each morning. The Gospel transforms us, not serves us. How does this work?*

Matthew 6: 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Seek first how the king works! God wants to transform you completely and God can do it. The gospel includes this - how to live in this life, not just go to heaven when you die.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Our spirit has been made new, born again. What are we meant to do now with our soul (mind, emotions, will)? Be transformed! It is possible here, today, now. No need to wait until you die. This is what salvation is - for living here today, not just getting into heaven when you die!

Romans 5:9-17 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom **we have now received reconciliation.**

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned— To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, **how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!**

That is the mercy, grace and love of God - we have been given the 'gift of righteousness' and are to 'reign in life through ...Jesus!'" Does that mean that we are to still sin? No place does the Word say that we are stuck in sin and will always sin until we die... does this mean that we can still choose to sin? Yes, we can, but why would you want to if you don't have to choose to sin. Jesus provided a way out of the life of sin. That is the gospel!

Romans 6:5-14 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that **we should no longer be slaves to sin— because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.**

Now if we died with Christ, **we believe that we will also live with him.** For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

In the same way, **count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.** Therefore **do not let sin reign in your mortal body** so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. **For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.**

You can choose to not sin. Jesus has made a way for you to be holy! You are a saint, not a sinner.

Romans 12: 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

What is the pattern of this world? It's sin. Paul tells us not be conformed to the pattern of this world. How do you renew your mind and live by the Spirit in God's will?

Romans 8: 5 Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

Set your mind on what the Spirit desires. Renew your mind. Be transformed. How? Pray, read the Bible, spend time worshiping the Lord and spending time with Jesus!

2 Corinthians 10:5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Born again is denying self, taking up cross and following Jesus. You are a saint, so be holy!

Ephesians 4:22-23 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Paul tells us to be holy and righteous. You do not have to sin and you are exhorted to be like God. Awesome!

Ephesians 5:1-14 Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them.

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all

goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said:

“Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

So do you still think you are a sinner and told that you will have to keep sinning until you die? Don't you want to please the Lord?

Colossians 1:10-14 so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:25-29 I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness—the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, **so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.** To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

Again Paul exhorts you to become mature in Christ? Don't you want to? Do you think you can mature if you believe that you are still a sinner and that you must sin every day because of who you are? Could it be that you haven't yet realized who are as a child of God?

1 Thessalonians 3: 13 May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

You can be and are meant to be holy and blameless because of Jesus. Go for it!

1 John 3:9-10 **No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God.** This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister.

On earth as it is in Heaven!

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