

THE SINS OF THE SAINTS

Introduction: All Christians are saints.

They are not perfect; they do sin. I Jno.1:10

I. Their Sins are not Consistent with their new nature.

1. Christians have a dual nature

A. The Old Adamic Nature

B. The New Nature imparted in regeneration.

2. No excuse for deliberately continuing in sin

A. Not in order that grace may abound. Rom.6:1

(1). We have died to sin. v.2.

(2). We are alive unto God in Christ. v.11.

B. Not because we are not under law but are under grace. 6:15.

(1). We are voluntary bondservants to Christ. v.16.

(2). Therefore, because we are under grace, sin is not to have dominion over the believer (v.14), not to reign over him. (v.12).

3. The way of victory for the new nature over the old is through the power of the Holy Spirit.

A. Romans, chapter 8.

B. Moody did not have a monopoly on the H.S.; The H.S. had a monopoly on Moody.

II. Their Sins are Not Continuous or Habitual.

1. I Jno. 3:6,9

2. Why the real Christian cannot continue indefinitely in willful, habitual sin.

A. Because he is begotten of God. v.9.

B. God's seen (the divine nature) abides

C. Because He that is Begotten of God (the only begotten Son of God) keeps him. 5:18

"There is the guarantee that "whosoever is begotten of God sinneth not," because round his weakness is cast the strong defence of the Elder Brother's hand; and the Son of God keeps all the sons who, through Him, have derived into their natures the life of God." A. McLaren.

3, Habitual sin is an indication that one is not a true Christian.

A. Whoever keeps on sinning has not seen God. & does not know him, v.6.

B. He that keeps on doing sin is of the devil
C. Marks of a hypocrite.

(1). If we say that we have fellowship with Him and walk in darkness, we lie and do not the truth. 1:6

(2). He that says he is in the light and hates his brother, is in the darkness even until now. 2:9.

III. Their Sins are Confessed and Forgiven.

1. I Jno. 1:9

2. We have an advocate with the Father, 2:1, 2.

3. Proper confession must include Repentance.

A. II Chron. 7:14, If my people shall ... turn from their wicked ways.

B. Son of Atlanta Pastor who went to sleep clutching the pink wool blanket and holding 2 fingers in his mouth.

IV. But What if the Sins of the Saints are Not Confessed? --- Then they are chastened and disciplined until they are glad to confess and forsake them.

1. Heb. 12:1-2, 5-7, 11.

A. Exhorted to lay aside the sin, v.1.

B. If not, they will be chastened, v.5, 6.

C. Chastening a sign of sonship, v.7.

2. How God Chastens his children.

A. Withholding blessing

B. Removing them from place of service; Paul, lest I should become a castaway.

C. Loss of peace, power, joy.

D. Sickness or death, I Cor. 11:30; I Jno. 5:16

3. The Results of Chastening

A. Seems for present not joyous but grievous yet afterwards yeilds fruit of Righteousness

B. Builds and Strengthens Character.

(1). Trees at the timber line

(2). Giant Redwood on Pacific Coast. "a mushroom can be grown in a few days; it takes milleniums to grow a tree like that." (3) fruit bearing - Jno. 15:12