

## **NOBODY CAN BECOME SINLESS OR RIGHTEOUS ON HIS/HER OWN**

**1 John 1:10-2:2**

**(Not entirely original with me)**

**Introduction:** No doubt sin is everywhere and a part of every human life and people all over the world can be seen every day committing sin. In spite of the obviousness of sin, there still are some who declare that they have not sinned. They say that they can become so righteous that God will approve of them and that they, therefore, are able to save themselves. They don't need a Savior, especially someone dying for them. There are those who object to the idea that Jesus, the Son of God, needed not to have died, for they are able to become acceptable to God on their own.

### **I. SOME THINK THAT THEY HAVE NOT SINNED**

1. Many object to being called "sinners."

- Many believe that they are righteous enough that God accepts them as they are.
- Many accept Jesus as only a good, moral teacher, the founder of Christianity.
- Many claim to be a "Christian", following some of the teaching of Jesus and His deity.
- Many look upon the death of Jesus as that of a martyr, a great man, willing to die for what He believed in but nothing more.

2. What kind of people claim that they have never sinned?

- There are those who believe that they can achieve a state of sinlessness and that once that level is reached they can continue to live a pure life and that the Holy Spirit will help them walk perfectly before God.
- There are those who accept Jesus as a great teacher but reject Him as being a Savior from sin.
  - They don't like to being called a sinner.
  - They believe that God would never reject them for they live a good enough life.
- These people do not understand exactly what sin is for to them sin is a great violation of law and morality such as murder, stealing, abuse, etc.
  - They fail to see what sin is to God and to God sin is:
    - any imperfection
    - coming short of God's glory
    - missing the mark of God's perfection.
  - They need to see that they can never live in God's presence as they are for they are so short in so much.
    - short in worshiping God as they should
    - short in praying, fellowshiping with God.
  - No person is perfect and all are sinful in God's eyes.
    - 1 John 1:10
- No matter what a person may claim, he/she is not acceptable to God -
  - if God's Word is not in him/her
  - if one calls God a liar
  - if one says he/she does not need God's Son to save him/her from their own sin.
  - if one says he/she can become good enough and righteousness enough and sinless enough to be acceptable to God.
- Romans 3:23; Titus 3:3; James 4:17; 1 John 1:8; 5:19

### **II. EVERYONE IS SINFUL BUT NOBODY SHOULD SIN (1 John 1:1)**

1. It is in everyone's basic nature to sin for everyone lives in a sinful, corruptible world.

- Christians, believers in Jesus, should struggle and fight against sin, not giving in.

- The believer is to become more and more like Jesus every day.
- 2. Jesus can look at one's life and tell whether that person really loves Him or not, whether that person is sincere or not.
  - The true believer in Jesus struggles against sin, fights, wrestles against sin with every bit of energy he/she has, trying to please God in every way.
    - John 5:14; 8:11; Romans 6:12; 1 Corinthians 15:34; Ephesians 4:22; Hebrews 12:1

### III. FOR THOSE WHO SIN THERE IS A GREAT PROVISION/HELP

1. No doubt the believer in Jesus is not to sin, but when he/she does, there is a wonderful help and that is Jesus Christ, Himself.
  - Jesus is the believer's "advocate" - one who stands at the side of the believer.
    - Such as someone called to help another who is in trouble, etc.
    - Such as a military commander encouraging a discouraged soldier.
    - Such as a lawyer defending someone who needs to be helped.
  - Jesus is righteous and is the only one who qualifies to help the sinner.
    - The sinner must approach God through Jesus for only Jesus is the only person who can stand in God's presence.
  - God will never turn down any person who has Jesus as his/her advocate.
  - Jesus pleads His own righteousness, not:
    - the reputation of the believer
    - the good works of the believer
    - the believer is innocent of any sin
    - not that the believer is righteous
    - not that the believer has been as good as he/she could have been.
      - Romans 8:34; Hebrews 2:17; 4:14-15; 7:25-26; 8:1; 9:24
2. Jesus is the only one who can reconcile God and people.
  - God is holy and just and must execute justice against all who sin.
  - There is only one way God's justice can be satisfied and it is through a perfect sacrifice.
  - There must be a perfect, ideal person to accept the guilt and punishment for sin.
  - Jesus Christ is the ideal and perfect person to satisfy God's justice.
  - God accepts Jesus' death:
    - as the sacrifice for the believer's sins
    - as the covering for the believer's sins
    - as satisfaction for the believer's sins
    - as payment for the penalty of the believer's sins
    - as the appeasement of His wrath against sin.
  - What Jesus did, He did for the sins of the entire world and what He has done extends throughout all eternity.
    - Hebrews 2:17; 1 John 2:1-2; 4:10; Luke 18:13

### CONCLUSION:

1. Regardless of what anyone says, thinks, claims, everyone is a sinner in God's eyes and there is but one way to be accepted by God and that is through God's Son, Jesus Christ.
2. There is no other way to overcome except through Jesus Christ.
3. Jesus Christ is the only person who can stand before almighty God and plead the case for any person.
4. Only by believing in Jesus Christ can sin be taken care of, no matter how good a person may be or think he/she is.