

## **GOD'S REMEDY FOR SIN**

**1 John 2:1-2**

**(Not entirely original with me)**

**Introduction:** Everybody sins! Even the most outstanding Christian! Every once in a while some famous television Evangelist or pastor of a very large congregation publicly admits to having sinned. All through the Bible God's willingness to forgive and forget His people's sins appears. Too often Christians who have gotten caught up in some sin have just "thrown up their hands" and said "I quit, I quit, I just can't live like a Christian should..." Why is God so patient with us? Why does God keep on forgiving sin? Because God made us and knows that sin is that dark evil thing that stands between Him and His greatest creation - people and God wants His people to be back with Him where they are supposed to be.

### **1. EVEN THOUGH SAVED AND A CHILD OF GOD, ONE IS NOT FREE TO SIN (Text)**

1. Sin cannot be excused and anybody who says that it is alright for Christians to do so willingly is wrong.
  - During one's life on this earth, there will never be a time when at least the possibility of sinning is not present.
2. Christians are warned to not sin, but if/when they do, they have a representative (Jesus Christ) with God who has made atonement for (our) sins and for the sins of the whole world.

### **2. GOD HAS PROVIDED HELP FOR THE ONE WHO SINS**

1. *Leviticus 4:27-31* - God provided a way for the people of Israel who had sinned to be forgiven.
  - People sinned/did wrongs through plain ignorance, just not knowing any better.
  - Carelessness, neglected the Word of God and its warnings.
  - Those who followed their heart's deceptive desires and therefore sinned against the commandments of God.
  - God was/is still concerned and has provided a way to be forgiven of one's sins.
2. Spiritual leaders are not exempt from sinning nor the need to be forgiven.
  - For a pastor, spiritual leader of any title, to not sin, he would have to be some sort of mechanical robot kind of person, not human.
  - A person incapable of sinning would be incapable of doing good for if one is not free to do evil then that person is not free to do good either.
  - If Jesus COULD HAVE NEVER SINNED, then all His temptations were nothing but as a human being, Jesus could have sinned, but He chose NOT to sin and that marked Him as the holy person He was/is.
  - It is not the inability to sin that makes a person "holy" but his/her unwillingness to sin. A holy person is not one who cannot sin, but one who will not sin.
    - An honest person is one who is free to be dishonest, but chooses not to be.
  - God set apart His priests to serve their fellow Israelites and to represent them before Him and they all had the potential of becoming unholy through sin.
  - What was a sinning priest to do? Resign? Give up? Should pastors resign, give up, walk away when they sin? NO! They will seek God's help and remedy.

### 3. SACRIFICES WERE MADE FOR THE SINS OF THE ISRAELITES

1. *Leviticus 4:3-7* - was how God's priests atoned for their sins on a day by day basis.
2. *Leviticus 4:13-14* - was how God's entire nation atoned for their sins.
3. *Leviticus 4:23-24* - was how the leaders/rulers of Israel atoned for their sins.
4. God made provision for the person, no matter who or what position, to be forgiven and restored when that person or people became aware of the fact of his/her/their sin.
  - Remember the prodigal son who left home and went away but finally "came to himself" and knew he had done wrong, however, up to THAT point, he had been an un-acknowledging sinner.
5. Upon admitting one has sinned and going to God in God's prescribed manner for forgiveness, one's sin is forgiven, no matter who he/she is.

### 4. FORGIVENESS OF SINS IN TODAY'S TIME

1. When a Christian sins today, should he/she give up, surrender and declare that the Christian life is just impossible to live, the temptations too great, the world is just too tough? NO! As God had a way of remedy for His Old Testament people for their sins, so He has a remedy for today.
  - We Christians, who sin, are to bring a sin offering.
    - For Israel it could be expensive.
      - A sinning priest had to offer a young bull.
      - Any other person it was a female goat.
    - Today it is not an animal or money.
    - Today, the sacrifice has already been made - *"...Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world..." (John 1:29)*
2. Today's sacrifice for the Christian's sins has been made by Jesus Christ and it only had to be made once and it applies to one's sins forever.
3. The sinner offering his/her sacrifice laid his/her hand upon the head of the lamb/goat being sacrificed therefore identifying him/herself with his/her sin and the sacrifice, saying in effect, "God, I deserve to die, for I have sinned, but through this sacrifice, confessing and putting my sin on this sacrifice."
  - We Christians, do the same thing when we, in all sincerity, confess our sins, calling upon the Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us. We have placed our "hands" upon the head of the Lord Jesus Christ and admitted that it was we who deserved to die, not Him and then thank Him for what He did for us.

### CONCLUSION:

1. Everybody sins - to not do so is to not be a human being.
2. God has HIS way of bringing forgiveness to the sinner and ONLY His way will bring forgiveness.
3. Old Testament animal sacrifices are of the past.
4. God has given His own beloved, begotten Son, Jesus, to be the SACRIFICE needed today for the Christian's sins to be forgiven.
  - Blood was shed, a life was given, as per the Old Testament ways, but the life given was that of a living, divine, human being, the supreme sacrifice for sin.
5. Forgiveness of sin is God's idea, not man's, the manner that forgiveness comes is God's way, not man's, but we have to admit our sin and willingly, deliberately go to God and ask for forgiveness.
6. So, "sinner," how is it between you and God? Is all clean and clear?