

LIVING WITHOUT SIN

Luke 11:13 2 Corinthians 9:15

Introduction: We make up a grocery list to take when we go grocery shopping, naming the things we are out of, the things we need for a certain recipe, something new we want to try, etc. We have a Christmas list, at least children do and letters are even sent to Santa Claus naming the things wanted in their priority. For birthdays, however, we don't make a list of what we want, we take what we can get. So, thinking about God and all that He could give you, what would you want most, after receiving salvation? How about being able to live like He wants you to - without sin? How far up the list would that one be? It should be number one. What do we have to do to receive from God the ability to live without sin?

I. HOW TO GET A GIFT

1. Do we simply just take it?
2. Must we beg for it in order to please the giver?
3. With God, there is no need to agonize or work for it, but just to receive it.

II. GOD'S GIFT IS READY FOR US TO ACCEPT

1. *Acts 1:4-5*
2. All through *Acts*, God gives His gifts, the Holy Spirit is given, victorious life is given, abundant life is given, spirit filled life is given, all freely, without exception.
3. For us, there is no need or reason to delay any longer for God's gift is available today.
4. There was a time when people were told to "wait" for a gift from God and the 120 went to the upper room and waited and the Holy Spirit was given and has been given ever since without anyone having to wait.
5. Jesus longs to fill us, to bring us abundant life but He can't until we surrender our entire selves to Him. God's gift is there, ready to be given.

III. THE FULLNESS OF JESUS IS READY TO BE GIVEN

1. It was wonderful that Jesus came in the first place and a glorious thing that He's willing to take full responsibility for our lives.
2. There is no waiting for some "thrill" or "feeling," we are to just take Jesus at His word, believe He has come into our heart and life, then trust and rely completely upon Him. His gift has been given already the moment we believed in Him.

3. Jesus Christ is indeed in the heart of every believer however so often He has been given only partial possession, not complete control and because of that Jesus said, "*...Behold, I stand at the door and knock...*"

IV. FAILURES IN THE BELIEVER'S LIFE

1. Is it possible to lose the gift of abundant life? Yes, the "abundant" part but not the eternal part.
2. Temptations come and failures occur.
3. Yet there need be NO of failure. When we fail, we've tried to do everything ourselves instead of letting Jesus Christ do it.
4. Christian! There need be no failures!

V. LIVING WITHOUT SIN

1. *1 John 5:18; 3:9*. The thought here is that of a habitual practice of sin, thus a life of sin.
2. Every person can sin: lie, steal, etc., but we know somebody who doesn't do this one or that one. How do they avoid doing that particular sin?
3. Sin is against the nature God wants His children to have, the Christian nature.
 - The nature of wood is to float yet it is possible to make it sink, if it is submerged in water long enough, it will become saturated with water and sink.
 - Dry the saturated wood out and it will float once again.
4. The spirit filled life has no desire to sin, but the possibility always exists for sinning for at any time one can partially withdraw one's total surrender to Jesus Christ.

VI. REASONS FOR FAILING TO LIVE WITHOUT SIN

1. One has not fully surrendered his/her life to Jesus.
2. Little thought has been given to the sin of pride, anger, jealousy, impatience, irritability, etc.
3. Sin in certain areas is never taken seriously.
4. God reminds us that we are all guilty of sin sooner or later, at one time or other.
5. How we actually live often contradicts what we say.

CONCLUSION:

1. We don't need to go around bragging about our sinlessness for sooner or later we will sin.
2. Satan uses "living without sin" or "sinless perfection" to frighten Christians from ever even trying to live a life of holiness and victory.
3. As long as one fully surrenders him/herself to Jesus and trusts Him to win the battles, there need not be any sin in one's life.
4. Life is a moment by moment thing and so is living without sin.
5. How does one get a gift from God, even the gift of living without sin? Claim it! Claim what God wants to give you. Does God want you to live a sinless life? Then claim it! Turn your life over to the Lord, trust Him for and in all things.
6. As a Christian, it is possible to live the rest of your life without sin, but Jesus Christ has to be in total control every moment. It can be done, it is what God wants. It's up to YOU whether it happens or not.