

To Sin or Not to Sin...It is Your Choice

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1 Timothy 1:12-14

12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

What does this verse mean? Even before Paul had accepted Jesus Christ as His Lord and was persecuting Christians God still showed him mercy because He knew what He would become in Him. We are all given a chance, a space to repent, to receive Jesus Christ at least once in our lifetime after we are born and of the age of accountability. (1 Timothy 1:15; Romans 5:6-9; 2 Peter 3:9; Revelation 2:21-23)

When we do things ignorantly that's actually sin and are participating in Lucifer's, in Satan's kingdom of darkness as a Christian (someone who has accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord) we are granted mercy out of God's love for us to repent. This is because the knowledge and truth of these things hasn't been revealed to us yet. When these connections and participation we have with the kingdom of darkness is revealed to us, that's when the sweet Holy Spirit will start moving on our hearts and convicting us of such things and to remove and separate these things from our godly lives.

Example: I used to wear makeup, perfume, jewelry and such like even as a Christian. I had the love of Jesus Christ in my heart and still called Him my Lord. But once I was made aware of the enemy's marine kingdom and that these things originated from there, I was convicted and moved by the Holy Spirit to refrain from participating in the use of the marine kingdom's products but it had to be my choice. Because I am no longer ignorant of these things I choose and still do to not be connected to the kingdom of darkness in any way with Jesus Christ's help. This I know can be an access point or a doorway to sin. Sin of any kind is still...sin.

If you continue to sin or participate by doing the things that connect you to the kingdom of darkness that Holy Spirit is convicting you to stop doing then you're given space (or grace), time to repent, But if you continually ignore His convicting power, His whispered thoughts, and pull in your spirit your time of grace or space to repent can be removed. The Holy Spirit will stop convicting you because of your choice to be disobedient to Him. In other words your conscious mind has become as if seared by a hot iron. (Gen 6:3; 1 Timothy 4:1-2; Psalms 81:12)

Sin is sin and is not a mistake. It is a deliberate choice you make to do something you know is wrong and it becomes a transgression when you act on it. This means when you actually step over the boundary line of doing what God says is right into the wrong. Then it becomes the transgression or breaking of God's commands/His laws.

Unlike a mistake, we choose to sin. Therefore, we must accept responsibility for it. In addition we must accept the consequences that follow.

What if you have sinned and transgressed God's laws?

1. **Don't minimize your sin by calling it a mistake.** In other words, agree with what Father God's Word calls it. Confess it to Him and say the same thing about your sin that He says about it. You can't get rid of sin in your life if you continue to deny its existence.
2. **Acknowledge your guilt.** It is normal to feel guilty when you have sinned. Guilt can be looked as God's gift, designed to motivate you to initiate reconciliation. This is the Holy Spirit convicting you and is different from condemnation that the enemy will bring against you. The sooner you acknowledge your guilt and your responsibility, the sooner you can resolve the problem with Jesus Christ's help. Never follow your confession with the word "but." This is the preface to an excuse. It negates everything you have said before.
3. **If you have sinned, own it.** Take responsibility for what you have done. (In fact, if you have made a mistake, own up to that too.) Even if someone provoked you, own your response because it was still your decision on how you responded. If they were 90% responsible, accept 100% responsibility for your 10%. There is never a legitimate excuse when it comes to sin. None whatsoever.
4. **Change your behavior.** Some people are very adept at saying they are sorry, but then nothing changes. They continue on with their same behavior. Repentance is not only a change of mind; it is a change of direction. Unless you change your behavior, you haven't really repented, no matter how many tears you may have shed. True repentance in Jesus Christ brings about change that can be seen by others and felt by you.
5. **Repent.** Ask Jesus Christ to forgive you and if you have wronged someone else ask them also. You can't demand it nor are you are not entitled to it. You can only ask and pray that the person you have sinned against will extend grace. Sometimes, they will wait until you have manifested the fruit of repentance, and that is fine (Matthew 3:8; Acts 26:19-20).

1 John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

Why would a person keep sinning?

I've heard people ask, "Why won't God take this desire away from me so I'll stop sinning? Pray that I'll stop sinning." They truly desire to be free from sexual sin, substance abuse, gluttony, materialism, love for the world, and such like. Jesus Christ said in John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments. If sin is a choice then you are choosing to disobey the words of Jesus Christ.

People are very predictable with their actions showing their priorities whether they realize it or not. We have the ability in our conscious mind, our soul's mind to know right from wrong. While many may want and attempt to do good, they are also willing to sin in spite of the fact they know it's wrong. In addition many will try to justify their sinful choices with excuses that make them

feel sorry for themselves. While some do have legitimate trauma to overcome, most know that sin is simply a choice to give in to the fleshly desires for a moment or two of comfort and pleasure.

What does the Word of God say about such things?

1 John 2:15-16

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. **If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

So what happens if you continually refuse to obey the Holy Spirits guidance to get the sin out of your life?

2 Peter 2:20-22

20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

Luke 9:62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

Hebrews 10:26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

Hebrews 6:4-6

4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

Romans 6:12-16

12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.

16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

The end result is if you continue to choose to sin...willfully sin and transgress after the sweet Holy Spirit convicts you of that wrong and never fully repent of them...with a change that follows, there will come a point in time when the Holy Spirit will step back from convicting you. Your conscience will be seared and you will be allowed to keep sinning freely without any interference from Him to draw you back to Father God and Jesus Christ's loving embrace.

The true Christian can occasionally fall into sin but most when they feel the convicting power of the Holy spirit, have true remorse, and guilt for having sinned against their Lord Jesus Christ and will earnestly ask for forgiveness. They will repent.
(Proverbs 26:16; Jude 24)

We are called in our Christian walk to die to ourselves and crucify the flesh with its ungodly desires. Jesus Christ has broken the chains that once bound us to sin. It's our choice to stay free in Him with His help. Or you can choose to sin again that leads to transgression of God's laws of love causing you to walk right back into your comfortable prison putting those shackles and bonds right back on. It will be by your choice. Your own decision because you like the way they make you feel. None of us have an excuse when we willingly give in to our favorite sins.
(Galatians 5:24-26; Romans 8:5-8; Luke 4:18-19; Psalms 107:10-14; John 8:36)

Remember Jesus Christ has already done everything for us to live victorious in Him.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Mark 9:23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

Hebrews 10:16-17

16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;

17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.

1 Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Romans 13:14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof.

Galatians 5:13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

Galatians 5:16-18

16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

Please pray about this in Jesus Christ's Name and try/ test and prove this according to the Holy Word of God. God bless.