

## "About Sinning"

### Three questions that need to be answered before we close up this series on Struggling with Sin:

1. What happens when I sin?
2. Is there a test for how I'm doing?
3. How do I proceed when I fail?

#### 1. What happens when I sin? - Colossians 3:25

- A. It's important to point out that even though sin can no longer kill the Christian, sin will have other consequences.
- I. So, I want to fight it because God has called me to holiness.

*"For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life." - 1 Thessalonians 4:7*

- B. What kind of consequences?

- I. Was the sin willful or not?

a.) Willful disobedience to God is proper-sin.

*"Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin." - James 4:17*

b.) Doing something that's against your faith (i.e., conscience) is sin. (Romans 14:23)

c.) There are greater consequences to the one who willfully sins. (Luke 12:47-48)

- II. God is compassionate and slow to anger. (Psalm 103:8-14)

- III. He will continue to discipline as needed until change (i.e., repentance) is secured.

a.) Change for our protection is the goal of Godly discipline, not punishment for revenge.

- C. Some Biblical Consequences for sin: (not exhaustive)

- I. Loss of Peace (Outward)

a.) Conscience is worn.  
b.) Emotional or Spiritual brokenness.

- II. Loss of Peace (Outward)

a.) Broken relationships.  
b.) Broken finances.  
c.) Broken occupations.  
d.) Broken health (physical).

- III. Satanic Strongholds Ultimately (Ephesians 4:26-27).

a.) Remember King Saul's spiritual troubles?

- IV. Distance from God.

*Your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. - Isaiah 59:2*

- D. Our call to holiness and our fight against sin ought to be taken very seriously. (1 Peter 1:14-19)

*Pursue...holiness without which no one will see the Lord. - Hebrews 12:14*

2. **Is there a test for how I'm doing?** - Galatians 5:16-26

3. **How do I proceed when I fail?** - 1 John 1:9

A. Remember Romans 8:1

B. Confess a pray things like this:

*"Lord, do not give me what I deserve. Have mercy on me."*

*"Take back the ground I've given to Satan in my life and in the life of those around me."*

*"Grant me Your power to defeat this sin permanently."*

*"Cleanse me and my whole life and forgive me for offending all those I've hurt through my sin (whether they know it or not)."*