

THE POWER OF SIN

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
THE POWER OF SIN
Bible Text: 1 John 2:1

Opening Prayer

Father, we say thank You today for Your grace and mercy upon our lives. Thank You because You are faithful, and You remain faithful. Lord, as we go into Your Word now, open our understanding. Teach us by Yourself, in Jesus' name.

We pray that this Word will not stand against us on the day of judgment, in the name of Jesus. Thank You, Everlasting Father. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Introduction

I welcome you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Today, we will be looking at a very sober topic. I would like every one of us to pay close attention because the Holy Ghost is about to do some things in our lives. This is an encounter we will not recover from—only if we allow the Holy Spirit to have full access and interaction with our inner man. This is why I urge you to read patiently and follow the teaching carefully, so it can have optimal effects in your spiritual life and your walk with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Bible text: 1John 2:1 - My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

Study

If there is anything we must address with great urgency and seriousness in our lives as Christians, it is sin. This is because of the adverse, far-reaching effects it has on our lives. Sin is capable

of destroying what has taken years to build. It can kill a man—first physically, then spiritually, and finally eternally.

Sin has a power many do not recognize.

It is a destroyer.

It is a killer.

It is a thief.

It blinds the eyes.

It disgraces.

It ridicules.

It breaks a man down.

It brings discomfort.

It causes violence.

It destroys hope.

It devours.

It scatters.

It creates disunity.

It can separate and break homes.

Many do not understand the power of sin. That's why they take it lightly. When Lucifer was in heaven, sin was found in him, and he lost a glorious position. There could have been nothing else powerful enough to remove Lucifer from such a lofty, angelic realm—except sin. Let's read **Ezekiel 28:14–15**, where the Lord described the fall of Lucifer. Though this passage uses the King of Tyre symbolically, it also speaks prophetically about Lucifer:

"Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee."

Let us look at what God said carefully.

1. God ordained and anointed him as a mighty angelic guardian—that is, an angel that protects and covers.
2. He had access to the holy mountains of God.
3. He walked in the midst of the stones of fire.
4. He was blameless in his ways from the day he was created—i.e., he was without sin.

But something happened after all these things: sin was found in him. Now, we have been talking about sin.

What is sin?

- Sin is unrighteousness.
- Sin is evil.
- Sin is iniquity.
- Sin is disobedience.
- Sin is Satan in nature, because it started from him.
- Sin is darkness.
- Sin is lawlessness.
- Sin is perverseness.
- Sin is wickedness.
- Sin is unjust, among many others.

This is what was found in someone who was perfect—and because of the level of power sin has, it was able to bring down a perfect being.

From this chapter, we can see how great the power of sin is:

- It banishes in disgrace.
- It expels one from God's presence.
- It brings one down.

- It exposes one.
- It can cause burning.
- It can lead to a terrible end.
- It brings shame and disgrace.

Sin can be sweet, but at the end, it is bitterer than wormwood. When God created man, He created man perfectly and wanted him to remain perfect in that state. But sin tampered with the perfect state of man and placed him in a fallen state. Man was created like God—to live forever—but sin changed the plans of God for man. Sin has changed the plans of God concerning many today too. The destinies of many have been jeopardized because of sin. When man fell into sin, he was not only sent out of the garden, but he also lost his dominion in the realm of the Spirit.

Are you with me?

Because of how powerful sin is and the evil effects it has on mankind, God cannot treat it or address it casually by just any means. It took **God Himself** to die in order to destroy its power. If sin had the power to nail Christ to the cross, why then do men think it is a simple thing? God does not want anyone to perish. As such, He Himself had to step into the equation, because there is no other means by which the power of sin can be defeated once and for all if God Himself is not involved.

1 John 4:10 (KJV) says, "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." The damage sin caused was so great that its appeasement had to come after a divine order. Apostle John then talks about sin—sin to those who are now saved and have been washed through the blood of Jesus Christ. **Revelation 1:5 (KJV)** says, "And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his

own blood." John says these things he writes to you, to me, to us—all those who are redeemed. If you are redeemed, if you have totally surrendered your life to the Lord Jesus Christ, this message is for you. Reading from the previous chapter, we see that the issue of sin was discussed by John, relating it to darkness. But now, he wants to show us more things—and he tells us why he is writing this to us. **1 John 2:1 (KJV)** says, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." And it is simple: it is so that we do not sin.

John said this, and the verse then goes further to say that **if anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ the righteous.** The reason he first said that he is writing these things so that we should not sin is because it is better not to sin in the first place. Then he goes ahead to say if anyone sins, which tells us that it is possible to sin even after you have been saved. Although we are to read the Word of God and pray that we do not sin, if we mistakenly fall into sin, we have a lawyer—an advocate—who is with the Father, pleading on our behalf. This tells us that as children of God, the moment we fall into sin, we are not cast away from God's family. We do not cease to be His children.

Jesus fits in as an advocate because He knows our weaknesses and strengths. He was once in our shoes. He knows the temptations we face daily, as He also once passed through such—but remained without sin. And because He felt what we feel and experience, He is able to stand in the gap for us before the Father. Even though Satan would love to condemn God's children when they sin and make it look as if they cannot be forgiven, remember: God does not want us to sin. So, it is good that we are always mindful of our ways and our steps, so that we do not sin. The fact that we have an advocate with the Father

who pleads our cause does not give us the license to sin. Many have become relaxed in their sins, claiming they have an advocate. We need to understand what John said very well—or else we will damn our souls. John did not say **"if any man makes a practice of sin," that is, "commits sin habitually."** This is because anyone who makes a practice of sin is not of God, and Jesus is not an advocate of such a person—because God is not the Father of such. This is why Paul said, **"Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid."** What he was simply saying is: Shall we make a habit or practice of sinning, and then claim that an advocate somewhere is pleading our cause? It can't be.

When we go into sin intentionally and make it a lifestyle, we should know that we are no longer in God's family. John clarifies this. He said: **"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." (1 John 3:9 KJV).** Yes, he initially said, **"If any man sin,"** so is this a contradiction? No—it is not. It is simply the distinction between the occasional fall and the habitual practice. Those who are saved do not enjoy sin, and they cannot enjoy it. This is how we know the children of God from the children of the devil.

Therefore, when the power of sin takes hold of a man, such a person will find himself constantly in sin and taking pleasure in it. It is possible to be in Christ and then begin to make sin a practice—such a path would eventually banish one from God's family. Today, many are finding it easy to sin and are no longer ashamed of the sins they commit. Let us now talk about the **signs** you will begin to notice in a person's life that prove the power of sin has overcome them.

I believe you are following carefully

When the power of sin begins to take over a person's life, certain signs will become evident:

- When you see sin as something minor, which should not be taken seriously
- When you believe that some sins are great and some are small and should not be repented of
- When you find it easy to sin without remorse
- When you become comfortable among those who have given themselves to sinful affairs
- When you no longer weep for your sins
- When you consent and partake in the sins of others
- When godly sorrow for your sins is now a thing of the past
- When you now avoid gatherings of true believers who preach the truth
- When you treat divine matters with scorn
- When you claim to be close to God whereas you are far from Him
- When you now justify your sins and find excuses for wrongdoings
- When you lose your conviction about sin and no longer tremble before God's Word
- When you begin to chase fashion, fame, money, and the pleasures of this world more than God

1 Corinthians 15:56–57 (NLT) says, “For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.” The sting of sin brings death. This means that when we give ourselves over to sin, what we are truly expecting is death—for “**the wages of sin is death.**” Has the power of sin not taken over you? Now we can see that sin is very powerful. And because of how powerful it is, someone more powerful than it must come to break its power—one whom sin could not

overcome. **1 John 3:5 (KJV)** says, “And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.” The reason Jesus came was to take away sin. Are you held under the bondage of sin? You can be free—only if you will come to Jesus Christ, the bondage breaker. **1 John 3:8 (KJV)** says, “He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.” Only Jesus can destroy the power of sin in your life.

God is set to destroy the works of the devil in your life. You know the sin you do not want to give up—this is the time to surrender it, so that it will not disgrace you. Don’t let sin reign in your mortal body. Don’t let it have dominion over you. **Romans 6:14 (KJV):** “For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.” For every sin a man commits, it draws him away from the Lord. Many are struggling under self-imposed bondage, and Jesus is calling out to them today to repent.

Galatians 5:19 (KJV): Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, [20] Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, [21] Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. Check your life carefully. What sin are you committing? Anything you are doing that you don’t want any other person to know about is a sin before God—and you need to repent if you don’t want to perish. Remember, it was pride that brought Lucifer down and made him lose his position. Do not wait until sin brings you down and makes you a shame to your generation.

How to overcome sin:

- Be genuinely saved
- Focus on Jesus Christ
- Put total faith in Christ and rely on His grace
- Make a firm determination not to go back into your sin
- When you fall into sin, don't postpone your repentance—ask God for mercy and forgiveness instantly
- Pray always for strength to live above temptation
- Study the Word of God always—it gives you power to overcome the flesh
- Evangelize to others—it keeps your own life under check
- Let prayer and fasting become a habit
- Always worship God with Holy Spirit-inspired songs

Prayer

- I destroy the shackles of sin over me in the name of Jesus
- I receive total victory over sin in Jesus' name
- Every wall of sin in my life, I break you down in the name of Jesus Christ

This is the end of today's study, have a sin-free day.

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp **+2347067511039** and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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