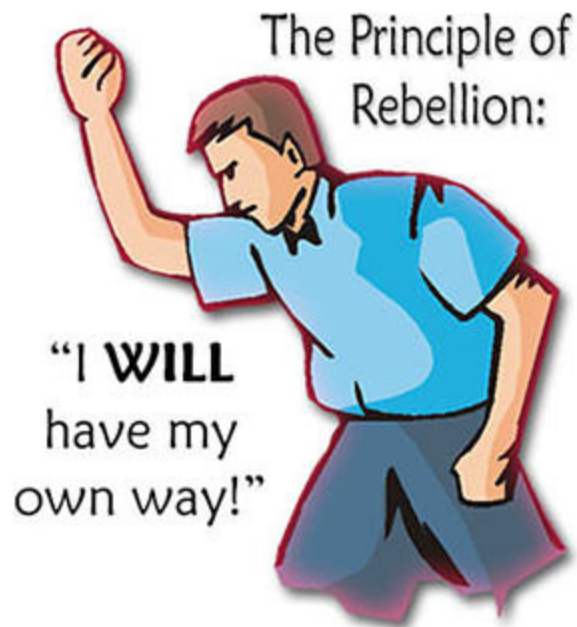


The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 104

Sin is Rebellion against God



2017

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never personally believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior; you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sins of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. *(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave is One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

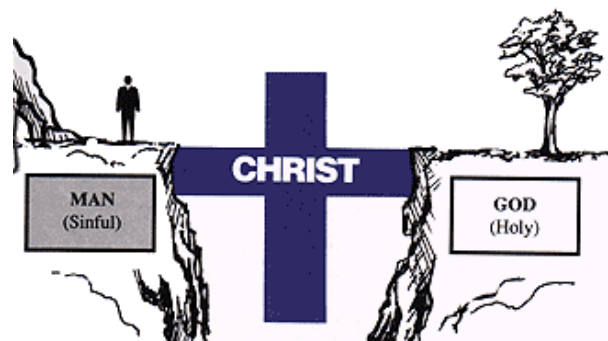


LESSON

Our lesson today is a very serious lesson...a lesson we must all learn from God's Word. It's about sin. Mankind's sins (that includes you and me and every person who lives or who has ever lived and who will live in the future).

Sin is mankind's rebellion against God. The Bible tells us we are sinners and rebel against God in **Rom 3:23**. *"...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*

God's Bible TRUTH tells us what sin is. God never ever confuses us. He always tells us what we need to know especially about saving us from our sins and spending eternity with Him and Jesus forever. But **SIN IS A BIG WALL** that separates us from God before we become believers in Jesus. Don't worry though! God had a PLAN!!! It is a great plan.

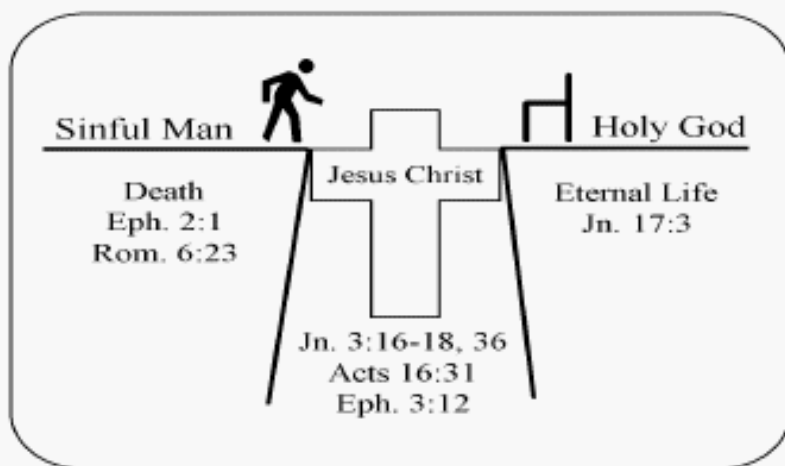
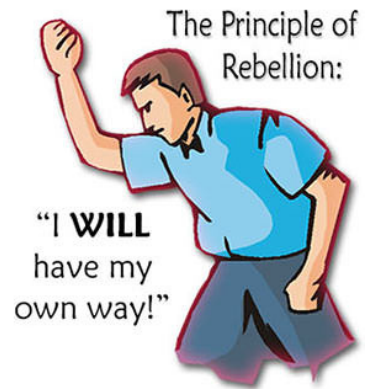


Let's start off with a definition of *sin*: *SIN* (singular) is a word that describes man's rebellion against God who if you remember is PERFECT. *SIN* is revolting against God. *SIN* is an act of wrong doing or behavior against God's perfection and His rules. *SIN* is God's enemy. *SIN* is the authority, power and principle that causes mankind to go against God's rules.

Also God says *SIN* is mankind's not wanting to be controlled by His rules because of our self-will ("***I want to do what I want***"), which by the way is the same as Adam's self-will when he disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden.

Adam sinned (rebelled, disobeyed etc.) against God and we inherited his sin nature at our birth. We actually inherit his sin nature from our fathers only because Adam was a man. That means we all sin and rebel against God as well. **Rom 5:12 "Therefore, just as through one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so (spiritual) death spread to all men (and women), because all sinned (while in Adam)..."**

You realize, kids that we sin BUT God cannot sin, right? He ABSOLUTELY CANNOT. It is impossible for God to sin. Again His nature is PERFECT. AND God cannot have anything to do with sin EVER. Bad news for us, right?



But God KNOWS mankind's problem is SIN! So God has done something about our sin problem. He is a Holy God and a genius...the smartest being who ever existed so His plan is PERFECT, like Him. As a genius solution, God sent Jesus to solve our sin problem on the cross and Jesus solved it forever! God in His

perfection would NEVER let us go without a solution to this very BAD and BIG PROBLEM because GOD LOVES US. Let that sink in, okay?

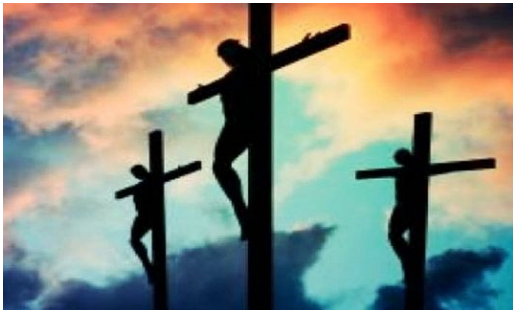
Here are the verses in the above picture that explains the sin situation and the solution:

Sinful man and spiritual death: Eph 2:1 "And you were (spiritually) dead in your trespasses and sins..." Rom 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Jesus Christ our Savior (God's perfect solution): John 3:16-18 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. (17) For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. (18) He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already because he has not believed in the name of the One and only Son of God." Acts 16:31 "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household." Eph 3:12 "...in whom (Jesus Christ) we have boldness and confident access (to the Father) through faith in Him."

Holy God and eternal life:

John 17:3 "This is eternal life, that they may know YOU, the only TRUE God and Jesus Christ whom You sent."



When Jesus died on the cross He broke down the BIG SIN WALL and mankind's slavery to sin. He paid the price for us!!! The WALL is gone so mankind can believe and trust in Jesus and His work on the cross. Now we all have peace with God **through faith in Jesus Christ.**

Rom 6:6 "...knowing this, that our old sin man was crucified with *Him* (Jesus), in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would **no longer be slaves to sin...**"



Unfortunately all those people who are still unbelievers are dead spiritually, separated from God, and still slaves to sin!!! Sin is still master over them because they have not put their faith in Jesus. Jesus taught us about this in John 8:34. "Jesus answered them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone (unbelievers) who **commits sin** is the **slave of sin.**'"



But AGAIN for those who are saved by believing in Jesus Christ, are no longer slaves of sin. God's genius plan gave us a way out from under sin's control of us. Isn't that great, kids? Yes, it is! Look at **John 3:16**. "**God loved the world so much, that He gave His One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish (die) but have eternal life.**" Rom 6:10-14. "For the death that He (Jesus) died, He died to **sin once for all**; but the life that He (Jesus) lives, He lives to God. (11) Even so consider yourselves (believers) to be **dead to sin**, but **alive to God in Christ Jesus.**"



Now that you're no longer slaves to sin, walk as free people and let the Holy Spirit help you NOT to sin. **Rom 6:12-14** "Therefore do not let **sin** rule in your physical body so that you obey its desires, (13) and do not go on giving the members of your body to **sin** as instruments of unrighteousness; but give yourselves to God as those (who are) alive from the dead, and the

members of your bodies as instruments of righteousness to God. (14) For **sin shall not be master over you**, for you are not under law (of sin) but under (God's) grace."

Let's look at **Rom 5:20**. "The Law came in so that transgression (sin) would increase (God's Law made mankind realize we all sin); but where **sin** increased, **grace** overflowed all the more, (21) so that, **as sin ruled in (spiritual) death**, even so grace would rule through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." The law of sin caused rebellion. But the grace of God covered it. Grace crushes sin's rebellion through the Cross of Jesus Christ.

Let's learn a little bit more about the "the Law" in **Rom 5:20**. Many, many years before Jesus became a man and died on the cross to save all mankind, God gave Moses and His chosen people, the Jews, the Law, His rules to live by. Again, the Law was from the Old Testament in the Bible and they were God's rules before Jesus came.



These laws included the Ten Commandments, which especially made the Jewish people realize that they were sinners and needed someone to save them from these sins. They were taught that they needed a Messiah or as we know it today, a Savior. Jesus is both! So again, "The Law came in so that sin would increase (people would know that

they were sinners) but where sin increased, (God's) grace overflowed all the more..."

Then God saved **all** of the sins of **all** mankind to be put on Jesus when He came as a man and went on the cross to die and pay the penalty for our sins. After Jesus died and paid the penalty for our sins, those who believed in Him were no longer under the Laws God gave to Moses and the Jews but they were under GRACE instead.

Back to the present. Now it is 2000 plus years since Jesus died on the cross for mankind. So for the last 2000 years believers have **NOT been under the Law** but under God's GRACE. We are living in what is called the "Church Age". The Age of Grace. Free from the Law. **Rom 6:14 "For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under the law (of sin) but under grace (thanks to Jesus). (15) What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law (of sin) but under grace? May it never be!**

Absolutely not! This grace should make us more aware of God's wonderful gift from Jesus and it should make us NOT want to sin. Thank you, Father!

Again what is sin today? It is the same as it was for all of human history. Sin is any thought, word, or deed against the perfect will of God. Instead of sinning against God we should be thankful EVERY DAY for His GREAT GIFT OF JESUS and tell Him so. Your conscience should tell you that.



God gave every human being a conscience. So what is a conscience? It tells us what is right and wrong. Our free will sometimes listens to it and sometimes it does not. If it does not listen to what is right, then it rebels against God. So do the right thing: listen to what is right: thank God and walk in a way that will

please Him.



Now that you are a believer in Jesus, you still have a choice whether to sin or not. Choose not to sin. The Holy Spirit who lives inside every believer will help you to decide not to sin. Let Him. Of course you need to learn **God's Word** every day and that along with the Spirit will help you make these right decisions. Remember you are human and you will not be perfect at this. Just let the Holy Spirit help you.



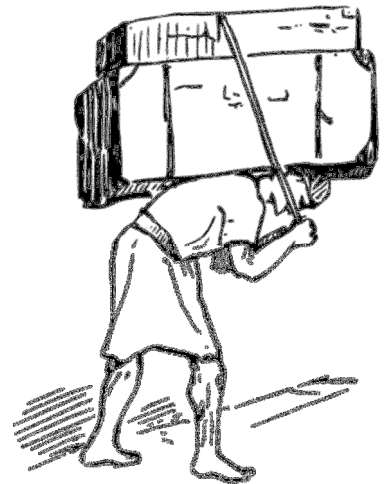
Also remember, you are not a slave to sin anymore as a believer! **John 8:34-35** "Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone (unbelievers) who **commits sin is the slave of sin.** (35) The slave (unbeliever) does not remain in the house forever; **the son (believer) does remain forever.**" That is because when you believe in Jesus, you have eternal life now and forever even after you die!! Terrific news, right?

Let's look at some more descriptions of sin in the Word. The Bible does not hold back when it describes sin or the slavery to sin for the unbeliever.

Eph 2:1 "And you were (spiritually) dead (to God) in your trespasses and sins..." **Rom 6:23** "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Sin is rebellion against God. Sin is self-will. Sin is saying NO to God.

Sin totally controls and dominates the unbeliever and the unbelieving world. They are slaves, slaves, slaves in every way. They CANNOT understand spiritual things because they are spiritually dead. BUT the minute they decide to believe in Jesus, they become spiritually alive in Christ. WOW! God loves mankind so much that He forgives us because of Jesus Christ. **John 3:16** "For God so loved the world that He gave His One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish (die), but will have eternal life."





Kids, really try to learn and understand the verses of Ephesians 2:1-10. God has the perfect solution...Jesus. "And you were (spiritually) dead (to God) in your trespasses and sins, (2) in which you formerly walked according to the way of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air (the devil), of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience (unbelievers). (3) Among them (unbelievers) we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of (God's) wrath (anger), even as the rest. (4) **But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, (5) even when we were (spiritually) dead in our transgressions (sins), made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), (6) and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, (7) so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. (8) For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; (9) not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. (10) For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them."**

AND we will walk in them NOT as slaves to sin like the unbeliever but as servants of Jesus Christ. "Walking" here means the way we live our lives. It's our lifestyle. So walk in a way that is pleasing to the Lord in thanks for His GREAT GIFT!

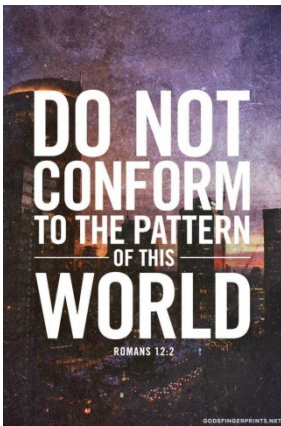


Eph 4:1 "Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, beg you to **walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called...**" Col 1:10 "...so that you will **walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects,** bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God..." 1 Thess 2:12 "...so that you would **walk in a manner worthy of the God** who calls you (through Jesus) into His own kingdom and glory."

Our Christian walk is the EXACT OPPOSITE of the way of this world. PLEASE BEWARE OF THIS WORLD!!!! Because the ways of this world are sins of dishonesty, blindness to God, destruction, judgment, and death. Eph 2:1-3 "And you were (spiritually) dead in your trespasses and sins (as an unbeliever) (2) in which **you formerly walked according to the way of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air (the devil),** of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience

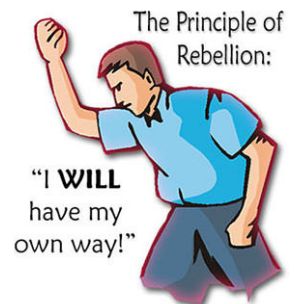
(unbelievers). (3) Among them **we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, allowing the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of (God's) wrath (anger), even as the rest (unbelievers).**

And the ways of this world are ACCORDING TO THE PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR...the DEVIL!!! You know that when Adam sinned against God in the Garden of Eden, the devil took over ruling the world? So he's pushing his ideas on mankind to get them as far away from God as he can!!!!



How did we used to live before we were saved and born again? We lived in the way of this world...the devil's way. We lived by the desires of our fleshly nature. In other words, we were TOTALLY INTO our SIN NATURE, body and soul! This certainly doesn't please God. **Rom 12:2 "And DO NOT imitate the ways of this world, but be changed by the renewing of your mind (from the Bible), so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."**

Listen kids, you can never hear this enough: sin is the rebellion against God. Sin is self-will. Sin is the refusal to be ruled by God. As unbelievers, when our bodies and our souls were completely controlled by sin it was a disaster!



Sin is all over the Bible!!!! The Old Testament says in **Ecclesiastes 8:11, "...the hearts of unbelievers are given fully to do evil."** That was us, too when we were unbelievers!!!



What does this look like? It isn't pretty!!! It's AWFUL!!!! BUT WE HAVE TO SEE WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT IT ALL. We MUST LEARN about it.

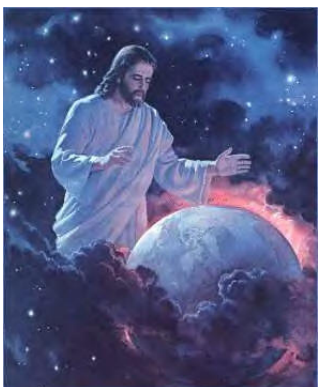
The New Testament has plenty to say about it, too. **Matt 15:18-20; Rom 1:28-32; Rom 3:9-18** tells us.....

Mat 15:18 "But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those ruin the man. (19) For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, and attackers of persons. (20) These are the things which ruin the man..."

Rom 1:29-32 "...being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, trouble, dishonesty, meanness, gossips, (30) backbiters, haters of God, rude, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, (31) without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; (32) and although they (unbelievers) know the rule of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give plentiful approval to those who practice them."

Rom 3:9-18 "What then? Are we (Jews) better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks (all other peoples than Jews) are all under sin; (10) as it is written, 'THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE; (11) THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD; (12) ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE. (13) THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE, WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING, THE POISON OF SNAKES IS UNDER THEIR LIPS; (14) WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS; (15) THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO MURDER, (16) DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS, (17) AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN. (18) THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES.'"

Eph 4:17-19 "So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the unbelievers also walk, in the uselessness of their mind, (18) being darkened in their understanding (to God's Truth), excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance (of the Word of God) that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; (19) and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness."



As complete and total as the rule of sin controls the lives of the unbeliever...DID GOD LEAVE them like that? ABSOLUTELY NOT!!!! He gave them Jesus Christ, the Savior. Grace goes WAY BEYOND and OVERFLOWING FOR BELIEVERS!!!! The force of grace in the believers' lives is much stronger than the force of sin and death ever has been in the lives of unbelievers. All they have to do is believe to be free.

We want all unbelievers to BELIEVE in the saving work of Jesus. Jesus wants all mankind to be saved. 1 Tim 2:3b-4 "...God our Savior, (4) who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the Truth."

So as believers walk now in a manner worthy of the Lord. God teaches us and commands us to obey His will:

Eph 4:25-31 "Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE of you WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we are members of one another. (26) BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger, (27) and do not give the devil an opportunity. (28) He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must work, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need. (29) Let no nasty word come out from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for instruction according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. (30) Do not make the Holy Spirit of God sad (by sinning a lot), by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (31) Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and noise and insult be put away from you, along with all meanness."

Eph 5:3-6 "But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints (believers); (4) and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. (5) For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man (unbeliever), who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. (6) Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience (unbelievers)."

So again, what is the rule of sin like for the unbeliever? It is in complete control of their lives! Also their lives are completely directed by sin, totally occupied in sin, and captured by sin. We have seen it again and again in the Bible verses in this lesson.



But here's the new meaning of that: sin ends itself at the death of the person, but grace endlessly gives abundant and fantastic life all the way through eternity with Jesus and the Father. This should make you want to share the Good News about Jesus to your unsaved family and friends. Wouldn't you love it they believed and went to heaven along with you? Yes, I believe you would.



TO THE PRAISE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST FOR HIS MOST
WONDERFUL GIFT OF SALVATION THAT CONQUERED SIN AND
TO THE PRAISE AND THE GLORY OF GOD THE FATHER and HIS
GRACE!!!

Close in prayer.

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on 6-25-2014
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