

# Morphing from Sinner to Christian

This is the last of our series on “What is a TRUE Christian?” I’ve been preaching for 50 years now, and I’ve heard so many men say “You can’t live without sinning!”, “You can’t live a minute of a day without sinning!”, etc. “God knows and understands.”

But as I have shown in this series, that is not what the scriptures have said. Living with the concept that we can’t leads us to not trying. Which could lead us to a false hope of heaven!

In this lesson, we will prove beyond a doubt that we must make the change from a life of sin to a life without sin! So may talk about John’s writings being too difficult to understand, along with the book of Romans. I think we may find out why tonight.

# My Little Children....Sin Not!

- Read 1 John 2:1-7. This passage gives us God's plan and intention. He intended that we not sin, but If we did, He made a plan for forgiveness through His Son. It sure isn't talking about sinless perfection, but a changed life, from sinner to Christian. Remember 1 John 1:3-10. Our fellowship requires we live "in the light as He is in the light".
- We are talking about a new creation. Rev. 4:11, "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."
  - Ephesians 4:22-25, "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another."
  - Colossians 3:10, "And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:" Notes vs. 5-10.
  - 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 1:15. Being a new creature was the important factor!

## More Grace? To Continue in Sin? Romans 6

- Sure God understands, but He isn't tolerating sin! Grace isn't enabling us to sin! Vs. 1-2.
- Vs. 2-12 – We see the parallel with Christ's death, burial, resurrection. We must crucify the old man with his life of sin, and bury them putting that man in the past, raising up to walk the new life – the life of Christ.
- This new life has a new direction: to yield ourselves/ our will, to walk in righteousness, NOT sin!
- The old man being dead is FREE FROM SIN, and alive in Christ's teachings.
- **Then the transformation takes place; from being slaves of sin to slaves of God.**

## Transformation Rom. 6:15-23

- Grace isn't to free us to sin, because we are dead to sin! We become obedient slaves freely to Christ whom we obey. Vs. 15-16. If we are living in sin still, we are a slave to sin/death.
- We were slaves to live with sin, but now we seek righteous paths and enslave ourselves to righteousness as Christ guides us.
- Vs. 20- 23 – Our fruits testify to whom we serve. Fruits in Christ result in our “sanctification”, our cleansing. We are “set apart” from others in this world. This grants us eternal life.
- The other alternative is to continue in sin, which results in death and eternity in hell.
- A question that might help us along the way:
  - **“Would Christ Do This, and Still Please God?”**

# The Fruit

- A godly life will be seen by others, noticed, and respected by others, especially Christians and God.
  - Even under the O. T., the “old paths” lead me in the “good ways” God expected. But the people rejected them, (and do today). Jeremiah 6:16
  - Matthew 5:16-19 – “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. ¶ Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”
    - **How’s YOUR light shining?**

## CONCLUSION:

- Understand this, living a pretty good life is NOT going to cut it. We either are serving God or not! There isn't a balance scale to determine this.
- **Grow in the knowledge of Christ. Be likeminded with Christ. 1 Cor. 2:16; Phil. 2:5**
- **Change your thinking from serving self to serving God!**
- **Help is here: Phil. 4:8-9; 2 Pet. 1:3-15**