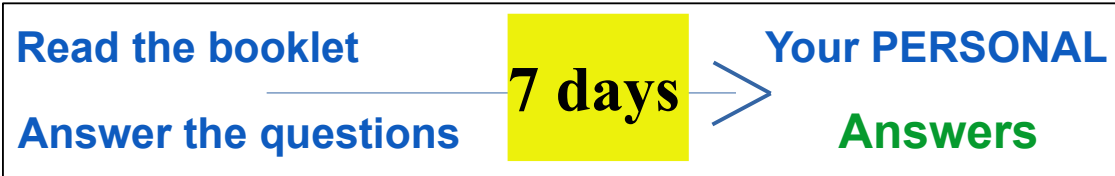


7Day

Did I Do the Sin to Death?

To see how safe you can be:



7Day
Done

7ddd.info

Did I Do the Sin to Death? v. 1

Presented by Al

© 2024 Al Thornton

All rights reserved

No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, except as permitted by U.S. copyright law. For permission requests, contact al@7ddd.info

This book is part of the 7D Series.

Bible quotes are from the King James Version, at times updated by the author.

The author also does his own translation from the original Greek. The translation in bold is one he developed to give more info on what is actually in the text.

All images were created by the author from scratch.

In the 7D Series:

- Why Do I Exist – Why Do I Suffer?
- Am I Important?
- What Did Jesus Do For Me?
- Did I Do the Sin to Death?
- How You Fit In with God
- 27 Way the Bible Makes Me Better at Work
- What Type of Christian Am I?

Everything is written with a conservative Christian viewpoint in mind.

This book simply offers information and/or experiences and may invite you to compare your experiences with what is in this book.

This book is derived from [God WANTS You: Sin Is Not a Deal Breaker.](#)

Notes: This material is derived from God WANTS You: Sin Is Not a Deal Breaker.

I include 2 Bible translations. The one in small letters is the King James Version update. The one in bold is one I developed to give more info on what is actually in the text.

The questions are all keyed to the verses.

Be sure to answer the questions- they are at the end of this booklet.

This book may have dated ideas. For the most recent see the God WANTS You journals.

I John 3

Whoever commits sin

3:4 Every the one doing the sin; not-witnessing with its rewards,

transgresses also the law:

also * is doing the violation of an enforceable fellowship promoting action guide; lawlessness,

for sin is the

and the sin; not-witnessing with its rewards, is the

transgression of the law.

violation of an enforceable fellowship promoting action guide; lawlessness.

3:4 Everyone doing "the sin". This is a specific sin. The Sin is to seek a relationship with an alternate god. It is the ultimate sin and will result in doing things outside of God's lifestyle principles, separate from a relationship of commonality with God, separate from God's guidance. Part of the forming of the alternate relationship is to accept being given an alternate set of lifestyle principles. The Sin is the primary, main sin, and attached to it are the alternate lifestyle principles that lead us to do all the other sins.

If you do this sin then you are doing "the lawlessness". The Sin is The Lawlessness. When you do The Sin of forming a relationship with an alternate god, you act contrary to God's will. You do the first act of lawlessness. You displace God from His role of guide and enabler. This is "the lawlessness". In the process you put yourself in the position of acting lawlessly, that is, contrary to God's will, in the future. All your other lawless acts stem from this one act, from "the lawlessness". All your lawless acts, all your sins, are in this one act of lawlessness.

When Adam and Eve sinned they formed a relationship with Satan. This is the first time The Sin was done, and we all did it in Adam and Eve. This relationship displaced the one they and we had with God. Satan became the source of information on how to live, what lifestyle principles to live by. 1:9 is about undoing the effects of entering this alternate relationship in Adam and Eve.

Anyone who is not in a relationship with God, who is not a Christian, is already in an alternate relationship with an alternate god and therefore doing the sin is a non-issue with them.

The Sin of 3:4 is the forming of this alternate relationship again, or of renewing the original one. Included in that alternate relationship are the alternate lifestyle principles. This is what any one doing "the sin" is doing. Doing "the sin" is doing the initial act of lawlessness, "the lawlessness", and this lawlessness is the source of all the other disobedience people do. Only "little children" can do "the sin". As we see in vs. 6, "young men" can never do "the sin".

You cannot be pure and do The Sin. You cannot be pure in your relationship with God and do The Sin. Nor can you be purifying yourself to be living by God's lifestyle principles and also be living by new or renewed alternate lifestyle principles based on an alternate relationship with an alternate god.

The Sin of 3:4 is only one of the sins of 1:9. The sins of 1:9 can involve violation of a relationship, and not involve the forming of an alternate relationship. A person can do all of the other sins of 1:9 all day long and never come close to doing The Sin of 3:4.

And you know that

3:5 And you are generally understanding and comprehending (by experience) (how) that

he was manifested

that One was revealed in His true character so He is understandable,

to take away our

*** in order that; explanation: He might lift (and move) * <our> the**

sins; and in him is no sin.

sins; not-witnessing with their rewards, and sin; not-witnessing with its rewards, *is

*** absolutely not, in Him.**

3:5 Jesus came to take away our (everyone's) sins. All of our sins. But the emphasis here is The Sin of seeking a relationship with an alternate god, from which all the other sins flow. Each of us did The Sin, and Jesus takes it away for each of us when we enter into relationship with God. When Adam sinned, each of us sinned. And Jesus takes away The Sin each of us did. He takes away The Sins. And in the process He sets us up to have all our other sins taken away.

Jesus did not come and do The Sin of seeking a relationship with an alternate god (or any other sin). He did not take part in it so He could identify it or identify more with us or any other reason someone might come up with to try to say He sinned. Jesus is and always was sinless. And it is from this position of purity that He takes away our sins and starts the process of making us pure as He is.

Young men are acutely aware that Jesus came to take away our idolatrous tendencies. Little children are still figuring this out, but young men know it. In some way each of them has experienced this as a reality.

Whoever abides in him

3:6 Every the one, staying; remaining, in the sphere of influence of Him, absolutely not,

sins not: whoever

is sinning; doing an (evil) (standards failing relationship destroying) not witnessing act; every

sins

the one, sinning; doing an (evil) (standards failing relationship destroying) not witnessing act,

has not seen him,

absolutely not, has with current results seen and (experientially) comprehended Him

neither known him.

neither has with current results (partly, interactively, appreciatively, applicably) known Him.

3:6 Everyone who remains in Jesus- young men- does not do The Sin. Everyone who seeks purity like Jesus does, does not do The Sin of seeking or maintaining a relationship with an alternate god.

Little children have a choice to make: to stick with Jesus or not to. They can choose not to remain in Jesus. They can turn around and enter into idolatry. They can enter into an alternate god relationship. This is why they are the ones warned in 5:21 to avoid idolatry. This is The Sin. Or they can choose to stay in a relationship with Jesus, and thus with God, becoming young men.

Young men do not have this choice any longer. They cannot enter into an alternate god relationship. They have already made their decision to stay in relationship with God. They are strong, the Word of God remains in them, and they have conquered the evil (one) who seeks their worship (2:13, 14). And the decision is permanent (3:9). It cannot be altered. God enters deeper into his life and keeps him stable in his decision.

Some people, young men, will remain in Jesus. They will continue in their relationship with Jesus no matter what happens. It can be inferred from the rest of the verse that they have clearly seen what Jesus is like and what He is all about, and that they have known Jesus and are sure of that knowledge, I assume in the context of what they have seen, and this time the knowing would include the idea of having a relationship with the One they have knowledge about. They will not do The Sin. Period. Ever. In this sense they are pure, and always will be. Also see verse 9.

And there are the people who choose to enter into a relationship with a false god. These people, who were "little children" who decided to walk away from God, have never taken a really close look at Jesus enough to realize Who He really is and what He is doing for them, and they have not known Him in a context that led to their being confident in Him and had a relationship with Him based on that confidence. These people are not pure in the sense of verse 3. They may claim purity, but they aren't. They may mingle with Christians and try to blend in, but they don't really completely fit in.

Little children, let no man deceive

3:7 **Dear children or students,** **not even one, let (cause to) roam (from safety, truth, virtue),**

you: he that does righteousness

you; the one doing the standard-meetingness; inherently having the quality of meeting standards and thus relationship promoting characteristics,

is righteous, even as he is righteous.

***is standard-meeting, just as that one *is standard-meeting;**

3:7 Children, you who are derived from and made like God, you who have a real and enduring relationship with God, young men, don't let anyone deceive you. Anyone who lives up to any of God's standards does so the same way Jesus does, by having God within implanting His standards in us. And in this context the standard being met is to only have a relationship with God as the one you worship and respond to as God. You have no false gods. You have no false gods because of God working in you. You don't do it on your own, you don't avoid false gods due to any knowledge you gain through your own effort or any law-keeping you do. John is talking to "young men". Young men focus on God's rules and our requirements to keep those rules. This focus can displace our remembering that obeying God doesn't happen just because of what we do, it happens because of what God does in us. We respond to what God does, we act on that basis. Our rule keeping attitude and our knowledge is not the basis of our obedience. Underlying all that we do is what God does, and without God doing His part we do nothing of value. But- there are people who will try to distract you into the learning aspect of Christianity, and the obedience aspect of Christianity. They will lead you down the wrong trail of thinking of yourself as the key to meeting God's standards. This is an easy path to go down. Many well-meaning people do so. And it leads to much error.

There is one way to purity. That is through Jesus. You have purity in the same way Jesus does, by having someone implanting God's lifestyle principles in you, and for you that someone is Jesus. God implants His lifestyle principles in Jesus, and Jesus implants them in you. There is no alternate way to purity and don't let anyone try to lead you into thinking there is. Self-righteousness, law-keeping, knowing about God, and any other thing you try will not work. Purity only comes from Jesus. Righteousness only comes from Jesus working in you. Yes, you strive to be righteous, but it only comes one way. Jesus implants God's lifestyle principles and the Holy Spirit enables you to do them.

He that commits sin is of the devil;

3:8 **The one doing the sin; not-witnessing with its rewards, *is from; out of, the Satan;**

for the devil sins from the beginning.

because *the *Satan is sinning; doing an (evil) (standards failing relationship destroying) not witnessing act, from [the] origination point,

For this purpose the Son of God

[[intermingled throughout this]]. *The *Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation, *of the *God

was manifested,

*** was revealed in His true character so He is understandable,**

that he might destroy the works of the devil.

[[intermingled throughout]] this, in order that; explanation: He might destroy; separate and render useless or powerless, the works of the Satan.

3:8 Anyone doing the sin of idolatry, of having a false God to worship, is operating from a relationship with Satan. Satan is the "father" of such people. He is the father of lies. He is the one who did the first sin, the sin of having an alternate god (himself). He is the one who led Adam and Eve astray. And he is the one who leads everyone doing the sin of idolatry astray. Jesus came to put an end to what Satan has done. We don't do it through our knowledge or obedience. Jesus does it. Jesus alone does it. Jesus does it as He implants God's truth in us and brings us into relationship with God.

This is something young men have a difficult time remembering as they continue to grow in God, as they increase in knowledge and in their desire to obey and in their knowledge of what they must do to obey.

3:4-8 Jesus came to make us pure. Pure from Satan and what Satan does in and through people. It is black and white. You are pure or you are not. Either a person has a permanent committed relationship with God or he doesn't. This doesn't deal with sinlessness, it deals with commitment. No matter what kind of faults a young man may have, he has one thing right. He is totally and permanently committed to his relationship with God. Little children haven't arrived here yet, if they ever do. Some do, some don't. Young men have arrived. They are committed to God and it shows. In this respect they are pure. You can't miss it.

We need to be witnessing to those who don't know God, and encouraging little children to become young men.

Purity comes strictly via God. Don't let anyone lead you to think otherwise. Some of the people who choose not to be committed to Jesus would love to lead you astray. Up to a point they can even look and act like true Christians. Check out your teachers carefully.

Whoever is born

3:9 Every the one, having been with current results begotten; caused to have certain characteristics,

of God does not commit sin; for

from; out of the God * definitely not * is doing sin; not-witnessing with its rewards, because

his seed remains in him: and

***His offspring; seed * is remaining; staying, in the sphere of influence of him; and**

he cannot sin,

absolutely not, he is able, to sin; do an (evil) (standards failing relationship destroying) not witnessing act,

because he is born of God.

because * he was with current results begotten; caused to have certain characteristics, from; out of the God.

3:9 And now we come to a verse that troubles people. They see it as contradicting 1:8, 9. If you have read the material on the previous 5 verses you know the answer lies in the kinds of sin being discussed.

John 1:12 says believers have the right to become children of God. John's "little children" have the right to become "young men", "children of God". Little children can walk away from God. In 2:24 John tells them to let what they have learned remain in them so they will remain in God. In 2:28 they are told to remain in Jesus. In 5:21 they are warned to stay away from idolatry. They have a choice. They can leave God in the dust. They can break their relationship with God. They can do The Sin. Or they can become "young men", "children of God". It is their choice.

This passage is not talking about little children. This passage is talking about people who have become "children of God". It is talking about "young men", people who are never warned to not commit idolatry. They are strong, the Word of God remains in them, and they have conquered the evil (one) who seeks their worship (2:13, 14). The ones begotten or regenerated or remade by God are the "young men". Literally, the Greek word means these young men have been "caused to be a certain way" by God. These young men do not do the sin of having an alternate god with the alternate lifestyle principles that come with that relationship. These young men don't form an alternate god relationship because what- actually Who- God implanted in them, the Holy Spirit (the "seed" of God, the "guarantee" (Eph 1:14), is in them permanently. These young men can't even do The Sin. God has so thoroughly remade them by implanting the Holy Spirit in them Who is so thoroughly transforming their knowledge of and relationship with God that they cannot break that relationship and form one with an alternate god. It just won't happen. They can do other sins. They can do grievous sins, but they cannot and never will do The Sin. They have the Holy Spirit within and the Holy Spirit will constantly direct and enable them to remain in God (vs. 6) and stay away from idolatry.

These young men have been "caused to be a certain way", the way of purity in Who they worship. They are relying on the Holy Spirit to keep them holy just like Jesus is, and to the same extent. The Holy Spirit won't let them abandon God at this point. He won't let them be so tempted that they will choose to do so. Young men have the Holy Spirit within as a guarantee of their relationship with God and the blessings to come. Young men are children of God and they will stay that way, both as God's choice and theirs.

"The sin" of 3:4, 6, 8, and 9 has to do with forming an alternate relationship with an alternate god. That is it. Only this one kind of sin. Compared to this, the sins of 1:8, 9 include all kinds of sins. A person can do many many kinds of sins and never do "the sin" of 3:4, 6, 8, and 9. Little children can do "the sin", young men and fathers cannot, even if they sin massively and habitually. God has transformed and claimed them to the point this is the one sin they absolutely will never do. If a little child does "the sin" of 3:4 it can be forgiven them under 1:9. No confessed sin is beyond forgiveness.

And this leads to purity in actions.

This is a good place to mention the eternal security situation. Some people say you can lose your salvation, some say you can't. And they are both right. There are verses on both sides of the debate. And John gives us the answer to the seeming contradiction. There are different kinds of Christians. There are little children. They can walk away from God. In 2:24 John tells them to let what they have learned remain in them so they will remain in God. In 2:28 they are told to remain in Jesus. They have a choice. They can leave God in the dust. They can break their relationship with God. It is their choice. No one else can take them out of their relationship with God, but they can do it themselves. They can lose their salvation. Young men, on the other hand, will never break their relationship with God. They will never do The Sin. They have come so far in God they can't do it. They won't want to do it. And they have eternal security. They will never lose their salvation.

Extra! Extra! What the Angels Learned

1 John 3

'I like this better already. I can see these people.'

“It does make things easier, doesn't it?”

He peers closely at one of the people. It is like looking at a mist that is lit up from inside and has the form of a person. A mist person almost brushes against his wings as he walks by.

'So, what makes these people different?'

“Commitment. They have made a total permanent commitment to God. They will never ever worship anyone else as God. They are now called 'children of God'. They are enough like God that the world does not understand them.”

'And the little children haven't made this commitment.'

“That's right. The little children are trying God out. They can choose to follow God or Satan. They can choose what God offers or what Satan offers. Once they make a permanent commitment to God they become a young man.”

'Does that mean ... Ohh! That one just flashed brightly.'

“Yes. You will see that occasionally. The day is coming when they will see Jesus face to face. Then they will be fully transformed. They will be exceedingly wondrous to see then. For now, they are young men looking forward to that future. For this reason young men have different goals than little children.”

'Oh? In what way?'

“Young men emphasize purity of relationship with God and purity of relationship with people. There is a big emphasis on doctrine and rules as they try to obey the commands to love God, love their neighbor, and love each other.”

'Whereas the little children revel in even having a relationship with God and in being forgiven.'

“That's right. Young men know they have those things. They are looking forward to further transformation and the blessings that follow, and that requires purity.”

'How do young men get this purity? We know the Jews failed miserably at following God's rules.'

“They get their purity the same way Jesus has His. Jesus is the Anointed One, receiving the lifestyle principles He must live by from God the Father. The young men are anointed ones. They get the same lifestyle principles from Jesus. Jesus implants the lifestyle principles in them. Young men work hard to live by God's lifestyle principles so they are pure and don't sin. As they spend more time with God and the Word and God's people, getting more exposure to God's lifestyle principles, Christ will reduce the amount they sin as He lives His life, God's lifestyle principles, IN & THROUGH them. They will often confess their sins to God, opening themselves up to being further transformed and to having Christ repair the damage to their relationship with God and others. That's why they get into knowledge and rules and purity. They actually can go overboard and get into excessive rules keeping, known as legalism. And they can get overbearing in acting like their imperfect theology is perfect and everyone must believe like they do in minute details. Satan's minions try to trick young men to distort their theology and get them into legalism so they are less effective in promoting God to others.”

'But this doesn't mean they become sinless, since no person becomes sinless in this life.'

"That's right. They will do many types of sins, and they may do a sin over and over. But there is one sin they will never do."

He holds his left hand up. 'Let me guess. They made a permanent commitment to God, so they will never do idolatry.'

"Very good. They will never do THE Sin of worshiping a false God. THE Sin is the initial act of lawlessness, of disobeying and not glorifying God, that a person does, and all the other sins people do flow from this sin. Included with it is accepting the alternate lifestyle principles and guidance and goals of Satan. Everyone did THE Sin in Adam. Little children escape Satan when they become Christians but can still do THE Sin again. Young men will never do THE Sin again."

He points to a black human form. 'What about non-Christians?'

"They are still under the original THE Sin they did in Adam. Jesus came to earth to take away sins, starting with THE Sin. He never did a sin, any sin, but He took everyone's sin into Himself- it literally changed Him, and He dealt with it before God the Father. He waited on the cross for God's mercies for all sins, and forgives a person when a person repents of his sinfulness and becomes a follower of God. Starting with THE Sin each person did. Jesus purifies people."

'And young men are purified from ever doing idolatry again.'

"They get God's lifestyle principles in themselves. And the Holy Spirit is IN them transforming them, giving them a context to view things from, causing them to be people who literally can't be so tempted that they will abandon God. It just won't happen. They are changed so much they can't do THE Sin. In this one area they are pure like Jesus, to the same extent. They will always have a purity of relationship with God."

He watches a black light-absorbing person go by. 'And little children who do THE Sin haven't really seen or understood Jesus well enough to avoid the temptations that come with idolatry.'

"Right. They have fallen back under the influence of Satan. Satan did the first THE Sin, and is the source of it. Unfortunately he gets some little children to return to him."

'And Jesus came to put an end to all of that.'

Another deep darkness walks by, blocking the light of young men as it goes along. 'I see non-Christians are here among the young men, too.'

"Oh, yeah. They are here."

He waves his hand around. 'It's real obvious to us. We can just look around and see who is glowing and who is not. But can people tell who is a real Christian and who isn't?'

"It can take time. Even though they sin against each other, at the same time real young men will DO God's standards, especially of loving one another, of sacrificially helping each other, even when things don't go their way. They even care about, and may help, their enemies. They seek to establish relationships. Fakers will act 'Christian', but somewhere along the way they will fall far short, not just by sinning against others, which they all do, but by being willing to destroy relationships and not regret it. And I mean so far short it will be obvious they weren't real followers of Christ with God's lifestyle principles implanted IN them with Christ living the lifestyle principles THROUGH them so they really

loved others. The very rejection of God will come out. Cain, in the Old Testament, was a faker, and eventually it came out. He sought relationship with God on his own terms, in his own abilities, for his own goals. And when God exposed him, well, murder is not part of God's lifestyle principles. Cain really blew it. His separation from God was totally obvious.”

'That was some massive hatred.'

“It was. And still is. Just like Cain didn't like his real self being exposed, neither does the world. The world hates Christians. It can't always show its hatred, but it is there.”

'So people who actually care about others- even their enemies- know they really have a relationship with God simply because they do care, and the reason they care is that God is working IN them.'

“That's right. Being unconditionally committed to others is commanded by God, and only people in relationship with God obey the command.”

'And Satan being contrary to God in all ways, he will lead his followers to not truly be unconditionally committed to others. So people can tell who is who.'

“And, to take it a step further, everyone guided by Satan causes separations between God and man and between man and man. All because they do not have eternal life, the lifestyle principles of God, in them.”

'And the people who care about others not only love God and neighbors and each other themselves but help others love God and neighbors and each other. Right?'

“Right.”

'And a good example of someone who does what God wants is..?'

“Jesus. He died on the cross for people.” I pause to get my thoughts together. “And every follower of Jesus should be willing to do the same for other Christians. Normally they won't have to die, but they better be willing to share their earthly resources with Christians in need. They can't just give speeches and advice, they must actually work for their betterment and live by the lifestyle principle of unconditional commitment to them, which will include sharing resources. If they don't, how is God's unconditional commitment to others actually in them?”

'They have to be better than the fakers.' He watches another light-absorbing person go by.

“That they do. And there is a benefit to doing what God wants.”

'What's that?'

“A person can feel like he isn't measuring up. He does sin, and fails to take opportunities to help others like he should. But he knows that he is living by God's lifestyle principles some of the time, so he definitely has a relationship with God, and he knows Jesus forgives sins and keeps him in a positive relationship with God. Beyond this he knows that God knows he is living by God's lifestyle principles at times and that he is devoted to God and wants to do better and that Jesus is working on his behalf.”

'So in the end he doesn't feel condemned but blessed.'

“Right. And it goes even further than that. God created people to interact with God. They are supposed to bring their requests to God. Honestly. Boldly. With the goal of affecting God's actions.”

He refers to a much earlier learning session. 'Like Moses did many years ago when he talked to God and talked God out of destroying the entire nation of Israel when they were being super stupid. One man stood between God and their destruction. And he influenced God big time.'

"That's right. And they expect God to do what they want. And He does, because they are loving others and doing things that please God."

'Like worship Him.'

"And trust Jesus to fully live up to the traits we have seen He has: His incredibly close relationship with the Father and His receiving and living by the lifestyle principles of the Father, and His implanting and living those principles IN & THROUGH them and forgiving and all that." I pause a moment. "And be trustworthy toward Him."

'By being unconditionally committed to the well-being of Christians.'

"You have the idea. They live out unconditional commitment toward others. God is IN them and they are IN God or that wouldn't happen. They experience the Holy Spirit IN them giving them the spirit or mentality to do God's will of caring for others and that tells them that God is IN them. They know they are in relationship with God due to this natural obedience. Sin is still a problem, but it doesn't define them. They are being transformed. They know God is giving them the purity of relationship they seek."

'And so prayer is something they can expect to get a positive answer to. Simply because they know it is in line with what God wants. God wants them to influence Him, and God reacts in a way that will please them because they are pleasing Him.'

"Not that they get everything they ask for. God has goals and plans they don't know. But He does listen and respond."

He looks around. 'If this is what the young men do, and what they receive, what is left for the next group of people?'

"The fathers. Maybe we should move on and see. But first, I think it will be helpful to discuss the idea of God being IN His followers and they being IN Him."

'Okay.'

"There is a reality called 'blood covenant relationship'. In a blood covenant relationship the members actually live IN each other. We see God living IN little children and young men, and soon we will see Him IN the fathers. He implants His lifestyle principles and desires and attitudes and more IN them. At the same time we see them living IN God. They pray, they obey, they are in God influencing Him. It is a 2-way situation. And the commitment to each other is so deep that no cost is too great to help the other one. Death, give up possessions- whatever it takes to meet the needs and the desires of the other one. Because they literally live in each other, and they live for each other. My life is your life, and your life is my life, is the idea, and the reality. They mutually influence each other. And- sorry for talking so much-"

'That's okay.'

"... The life is in the blood. Their lifestyle principles and desires and attitudes and more are IN their blood. They are somehow attached to their blood. Jesus is fully human. He has blood. His blood is IN His followers, and theirs is IN Him. And Christians are in this same blood covenant relationship with each other through Jesus. They are committed to each other as they are committed to Jesus."

“We see it in little children, young men, and we will see it in the fathers as we look at them. God's followers have God living IN them, and they live IN God.

“Okay, let's move on.”

Chapter 5

Insight 5 God BELIEVES In You

Us: God makes us victors. Jesus wins, Satan loses.

God wants you! Sin is not a deal breaker.

Except the one some little children do.

John has just finished giving an overview of the 3 Christian life stages in the last verses of chapter 4. He covered what we are like, and what we are not like. He covered what God does and what He expects. He mentioned our boldness and our lack of fear due to our relationship with God. And we can see that:

God wants you! Sin is not a deal breaker.

Which brings up the subject of our standing before God. How does God view us?

Which in turn brings up the subject of sin. How can we have a standing before God, a relationship with God, when we still sin? How can we be bold before God when we still sin? It is one thing to talk about sin being dealt with for "little children" in 1:9. But what about mature Christians? How does our sin affect our relationship with God? Does 1:9 apply to all Christians? In chapter 5 John assures us that sin is not a deal breaker for young men and fathers.

In verses 13-15 John says he wants us to feel assured about our standing before God, our relationship with Him, with the corresponding assurance that God responds to our requests. In 1-12 we see how God views us. In 16-20 he deals with the sin question directly. Sin is not necessarily a deal breaker. And in 21 he tells "little children" to stay away from idolatry. This is the deal breaker. This is the only deal breaker. Avoid it. It is something only little children can do, and this is the only verse in this chapter where John addresses them.

And all through this we see that life is not about us, it is about God and what God is doing in us and through us.

1-20 God sees us as victors over the world and its ways due to God at work in us. Sin is not a deal breaker.

1-3 John starts out by reassuring young men and fathers again that we have a relationship with God. God sees us in relationship with Him (vs 1), and He is committed to our being transformed to measure up to that relationship, and transformed so much that it is not a burden to us to do what we must do (vs 3). Even we can see it in our actions (vs 2). Sin isn't mentioned- it is not a deal breaker.

4-5 4-5 correspond to 1, 6-12 correspond to 3, and 13-15 correspond to 2.

4-5 We are conquering the world. It may not seem like it, but sin is not our ruler. Jesus is. We are victors. We are transformed. We have eternal life, God's eternal lifestyle principles, in

us. This is how God sees us. So the deal with God is not broken. We will spend eternity with God. Sin is not a deal breaker.

6-12 *The work of Jesus is undoubtedly absolutely sufficient for people regenerated by God. Jesus is the One Who assures our victory and our relationship with God. God says so. And He witnesses the same thing in your spirit. Sin is not a deal breaker. God sees us the way He does due to the work of Jesus. Sin is not a deal breaker.*

13-15 *Rest assured. You have such a strong relationship with God that He responds to you. You have the victory. You can know you have a relationship with God, be bold to ask things from God due to that relationship, and expect them to be granted. God truly sees you as a victor. A victor He created. Sin is not a deal breaker.*

16-20 *Sin is not a deal breaker.*

16-17 *Sin does not break the relationship with God. God built in a plan for dealing with sin. Except for one type of sin, which John brings out in verse 21, and only little children- who John is not writing to in this chapter- can do that sin.*

18-20 *Note "know" in 18,19,20. We know from experience or observation or just from knowing how God is working, that God has made us victors: God is transforming us and enabling us and we are keeping ourselves from the sin that would break our relationship with God. We know we are under the umbrella of God while the world is under the umbrella of Satan. We know we have commonality with God because of the work of Christ IN us. We know what God is doing, so we know how God views us. Sin is not a deal breaker. Never can be. God is at work. In you.*

21 *The one type of sin that is a deal breaker, with an exhortation for "little children" to avoid it. To the very end John never forgets the little children, the ones he started out writing to.*

5:1-20 *God sees us as victors over the world and its ways due to God at work in us. Sin is not a deal breaker.*

5:1-3 *John starts out by reassuring young men and fathers again that we have a relationship with God. God sees us in relationship with Him (vs 1), and He is committed to our being transformed to measure up to that relationship, and transformed so much that it is not a burden to us to do what we must do (vs 3). Even we can see it in our actions (vs 2). Sin isn't mentioned- it is not a deal breaker.*

Whoever believes that Jesus

5:1 Every the one, trusting and being trustworthy, that Jesus; Savior; Yahweh is salvation,

is the Christ is born

is the Christ; Anointed, * has been with current results begotten; caused to have certain characteristics,

of God: and every one that

from; out of, the God, and every the one,

loves

loving; being unconditionally committed to someone's well-being,

him that begat

the one, having begotten; having caused to have certain characteristics, *<also>

loves him also that is begotten of him.

is loving; being unconditionally committed to someone's well-being, the one, having been with current results begotten; caused to have certain characteristics, from; out, of Him.

5:1 "everyone trusting and being trustworthy ("believing") that Jesus is the Anointed (One) ("Christ") derived from God ("of/by God") has been caused to be a certain way ("born")." (I put typical translations or my thoughts in () here.)

This verse applies to young men and fathers. They have been "regenerated" or "born" – that is, they have been "caused to be a certain way"- by God. Little children have the right to enter this state (Jn 1:12), but haven't done so yet. When they exercise that right they become young men (chapter 3). This verse applies to those who have already exercised that right. Young men and fathers trust God and are trustworthy (commonly translated "believes") toward God. They permanently react to Jesus as Savior and as Transformer both in their trust and trustworthiness. Everyone who does this has been regenerated, caused to be a certain way, by God. He has been permanently transformed and brought into a relationship of commonality with God.

To make things confusing, "God" here might refer to the Father or to Jesus.

"and the one being unconditionally committed to the well-being of others ("loving") the one having caused to be a certain way (having begotten) (could be the Father or Jesus) is being unconditionally committed to the well-being of others ("loving") the one having been caused to be in a certain way (having been begotten) (could be Jesus and / or it could be fellow Christians).

The one being unconditionally committed to the well-being of others, the one loving- as this is so commonly translated, is the young men and fathers.

And the one having caused to be in a certain way could be the Father, who is causing Jesus to be Who He is- Savior. Or it could be the one having caused to be in a certain way is the Father or Jesus who is causing you and me to be transformed Christians. If it is the first of these options, then you are being committed to (loving) God the Father and also to Jesus. If it is the second of these options, then you are being committed to the Father or Jesus and also to fellow Christians. Either option works here. Both work and may be intended. The next verse tends to point toward the second option as being the right one, while modern translations tend to point to the first one.

Satan and the world are not causing you to be this certain way. They are not bringing you to conform to this pattern. God is doing that.

God brought you to the point of being unconditionally committed to the well-being of God and people. This is how God sees you. Sin is not a deal breaker. Sin is a non-issue in this.

By this we know

5:2 **In the sphere of influence of, this, we are (partly, interactively, appreciatively, applicably) knowing,**

that we love the

that we are loving; being unconditionally committed to someone's well-being, the

children of God, when

children by inherited characteristics, of the God, when possibly,

we love God, and

*** we might love; be unconditionally committed to the well-being of another, the God and**

keep his commandments.

*** we might be watching closely (to be in line with, preserve, keep safe), *His ^commandments.**

5:2 You can know- be sure of in a context- that you are unconditionally committed to the well-being of ("loving") God's children. That's all Christians. When you are unconditionally committed to the well-being of ("loving") God... Stop and think about this one for a moment. You affect God's well-being. Or at the very least you are concerned about it. When you have this commitment toward ("love") God and keep God's commandments as a matter of obedience, like young men do, and when you serve God and people from compassion like the fathers do, then you are certainly living in a commitment to the well-being of God and of other Christians. In spite of your sin. Sin is not a deal breaker. Even you can see that you are in a relationship of commonality with God.

For this is the love

5:3 *** In a wider context, this is the love; unconditional commitment to the well-being of another,**

of God, that we keep

of the God, in order that; explanation: * we might be watching closely (to be in line with, preserve, keep safe),

his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

***His ^commandments; and *His ^commandments *are * absolutely not, burdensome; grievous; severe,**

5:3 "In a wider context this is the unconditional commitment from and / or toward God":

The way you live out your unconditional commitment toward God is by being committed to God and to your neighbors and to fellow Christians. In other words, take care of them, even when it costs you a lot. Keep God's commandments.

As for commitment from God, God is committed to our being transformed to measure up to that relationship, and transformed so much that it is not a burden to us to do what we must do.

Doing God's commandments is not an overwhelming burden. It is work, it can be demanding and irritating and all the rest. But God enables and guides us. And He gives us a desire, an attitude, to do it and do it to the best of our abilities. It is a natural part of you. Sin interferes with doing that, but sin does not stop it. Sin is not a deal breaker. God is transforming you to do His will His way, and He sees you in that light. And yes, He sees you, not just Jesus in you. You are important to God, you are helped by God, and you are seen by God.

And in a real sense, it is not a burden for us because we are on the winning side. And when you are winning, it is not a burden, it is simply a task on the way to victory. Besides, who is doing most of the work? You? No. It is Jesus. He is transforming you. That's the real work. And the Holy Spirit is guiding and enabling you. The burden isn't yours, it is God's. And you get the joy of being on the winning side and seeing the changes in your life and that of others.

5:4-5 We are conquering the world. It may not seem like it, but sin is not our ruler. Jesus is. We are victors. We are transformed. We have eternal life, God's eternal lifestyle principles, in us. This is how God sees us. So the deal with God is not broken. We will spend eternity with God. Sin is not a deal breaker.

For whatever is born

5:4 because every the one having been with current results begotten; caused to have certain characteristics

of God overcomes the world: and this is the

from; out of the God is overcoming the harmonious orderly arrangement; decoration; world; and this is the

victory that overcomes the world, *even* our faith.

conquest; means of success; victory the one having overcome the harmonious orderly arrangement; decoration; world, *our [^] trust and trustworthiness.

5:4 Why? Why aren't the commandments burdensome? Because God has caused you to be a certain way, He has transformed you so you conform to His standard or pattern- His lifestyle principles, He has begotten you, He has transformed you to be obedient to His ways and caring for others. And with these new and improved abilities and attitudes, you conquer the world. The lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life don't absolutely control you. You have the option to obey God and care for people. You don't do it perfectly, but you do it. And what is it about you now that makes you a victor? How has God transformed you so you live His way and not the world's way? Trust and trustworthiness. You now have these toward God, and it shows in how you treat people. This is what God has caused you to be like. And it gives you victory. Before, it was natural to do things the world's way. They made sense and worked out for your goals. Now, it is natural to do things God's way. The world's ways don't fit your goals and they don't even make sense any more. Trust and trustworthiness, ethics, obedience and caring, these are what are natural to you now. And becoming ever more so.

Sin is not a deal breaker. It actually becomes less of an issue as time goes by, as God transforms you to be like Him. Jesus dealt with your sins. What matters are the times when you obey God. The sins will

be forgotten. The obedience will be remembered. The times you act like God in the various circumstances of life, those are what matters.

Who is he that overcomes the

5:5 **{ Continuing in this topic or context } Who is the one overcoming the**

world, but he that

harmonious orderly arrangement; decoration; world if non-absolutely not the one

believes that Jesus is the

trusting and being trustworthy that Jesus; Savior; Yahweh is salvation is the

Son of God?

Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation of the God?

5:5 And that trust and trustworthiness that you have, the one making you a victor over the world, is based in Jesus being the Son of God, being the One with a relationship of being anointed by God, of receiving the Father's lifestyle principles from the Father and living by them, and then you receiving them from Jesus and living by them. This is something you are actually doing. You are trusting God and being trustworthy toward God by living by the eternal lifestyle principles of God. This is what makes you a victor. This is what God sees.

We are conquering the world. It may not seem like it, but sin is not our ruler. Jesus is. We are victors. We are transformed. We have eternal life, God's eternal lifestyle principles, in us. This is how God sees us. So the deal with God is not broken. We will spend eternity with God. Sin is not a deal breaker.

5:6-12 Now you base your victory not in yourself but in Jesus and Jesus alone. So just Who is this Jesus? Is He sufficient? More important, God is trusting Jesus to be your Savior, your full Savior. So just who is this Jesus that God is trusting?

5:6-12 The work of Jesus is undoubtedly absolutely sufficient for people regenerated by God. Jesus is the One Who assures our victory and our relationship with God. God says so. And He witnesses the same thing in your spirit. Sin is not a deal breaker. God sees us the way He does due to the work of Jesus.

This is he that came by water and blood, *even*

5:6 **This is the one having come (to be) in context of water and blood,**

Jesus Christ; not

Jesus; Savior; Yahweh is salvation Christ; Anointed, absolutely not

by water only, but by

in the sphere of influence of water merely; only; exclusively, but in the sphere of influence of

water and blood. And it is the Spirit that

the water and in the sphere of influence of the blood; and the Spirit is the one

bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.

witnessing to in a positive light, because the Spirit is the truth; reality.

5:6 Jesus Christ. He came in water and in blood. Water means He was fully human. Anyone thinking Jesus was just a spiritual manifestation of God is wrong. He wasn't just a ghost or a spirit or some such thing. He had a body and lived a fully human life like you and I do. He was born a natural birth, grew up, learned. Just like you.

Beyond this, and true at the same time, there was blood. This is not a reference to human blood. This is a reference to blood covenant. Jesus came as a result of and as part of living out a covenant He has with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. This kind of covenant is unbreakable, and represents a full unconditional turning over of yourself to the desires or will or need of the other one in the covenant. This kind of covenant is all through the Bible, and unfortunately few people know of it or understand it. The people in John 6, when Jesus talked about eating His flesh and drinking His blood, did not realize He was referring to a blood covenant. Blood covenant is important because the life is in the blood. The very lifestyle principles you live by are in your blood. Share physical blood and you share your lifestyle principles. People's memories are even transferred this way at times. This has been known since the 1800s, at least. A blood covenant represents a sharing of one's very life with another, and a commitment to the well-being of the other person to the point you will die for him if need be. No sacrifice is too great. The blood represents the life, and the flesh represents empowerment or enabling. And we see what Jesus agreed to do when the covenant was formed in eternity past in the next 2 words, in the meaning of His name.

Jesus. This means "God is salvation". In the covenant Jesus agreed to come to earth to be our Savior, our Deliverer. He receives from the Father and provides to us the forgiveness and the transformation that makes us worthy to be in a relationship with God, and brings us back into that relationship. He literally came to earth to die so He could accomplish this goal. No act was too great. He would do anything to fulfill this covenant that He voluntarily entered into. And today He is still working on your behalf in Heaven. He is your representative in Heaven before God Almighty. "God is salvation." Jesus is God in the flesh, working for you. This is who you trust. This is who God the Father trusts. And Jesus, being God and Man, is fully able to do the task of making you into the new improved version of you that He agreed to make you into. Praise God!

Christ. This is the other part of His name that we so casually toss about. Christ. This means anointed. Jesus is the Anointed One. Jesus did not come to earth and just do any old thing that came to His mind to fulfill His covenant with the Father. No. He came and received God's lifestyle principles from God the Father. Jesus lived by those. He always lived by those. That is the idea of His being anointed. He received something from the Father.

And as God is Salvation He passes those lifestyle principles on to us. He lives them IN and THROUGH us. He transforms us. That is in His blood covenant with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

Jesus didn't just come as a Man, or even as the GodMan, on His own. He came as part of His covenant with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

And the Holy Spirit witnesses to all this. The Holy Spirit is the Truth. The Holy Spirit can do nothing but tell the truth. And the Holy Spirit witnesses to Who Jesus is and what He is doing. The Holy Spirit witnesses in your heart, if you will pay attention. And the Holy Spirit is known to arrange for miracles to happen that point to Who Jesus is and what He is doing.

5:7-8 In these verses there is a divergence of Greek texts. One line of texts is longer than the other. There is no harm in including the teaching of the longer line, so I will do so. The shorter, and most probably more accurate, text leaves out the words that start with "in heaven" and end with "in earth". So if you want to ignore the comments on the 3 witnesses in vs. 7 you can certainly do so. The witnesses in vs. 8 are in all the texts.

For there are three that bear record in

5:7 **For *the ones, *witnessing to in a positive light, <* in the sphere of influence of, *the**
heaven, the Father,

***heaven> *are three, <the Father; originator (of a group); one worthy of honor; one who cares for others; one with authority,**

the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

the Logical Presentation, and the Separated to and Representing God, Spirit, and these three *are one;>

5:7 There are 3 witnesses. The longer text says there are 3 witnesses in Heaven. These are the Father, who spoke up at Jesus' baptism; and the Word, which in the Old Testament tells a lot of things about what Jesus the Savior was going to be like and go through; and the Holy Spirit Who witnesses to Jesus in our spirits and through miracles and undoubtedly to all the angels in Heaven. And the 3 are one. In other words, their witness to Jesus exactly matches. There is no disagreement or variation. They witness that Jesus came as a true human and that He came in the context of His covenant with the Father and the Holy Spirit that was made in eternity past.

And there are three that bear witness in

5:8 **<and *the ones, *witnessing to in a positive light, in the sphere of influence of, *the**
earth, the spirit, and the water, and the

***harmonious orderly arrangement; decoration; world, *are three,> the Spirit and the water and**
blood: and these three agree in one.

the blood, and the three *are intermingled throughout, the one.

5:8 All the texts say there are 3 witnesses, this time on the earth. The 3 witnesses are the spirit, which may refer to the Holy Spirit, or may refer to the spirit of Jesus or even your own spirit, which the Holy Spirit is speaking to. John leaves this open to interpretation, maybe intentionally. The water points to the earthly life of Jesus. His lifestyle pointed always to Who He truly is. Watch Him, and you see God in Him. You see the lifestyle principles of God lived by. And the blood. Watch Jesus, study His life, and you see His mission. You see Him living out His covenant with God. What He promised to do, He did. And He did it the way the Father wanted it done. And He did it for the Father. And the 3 witnesses all agree. There is no disagreement or variation. They witness that Jesus came as a true human and that He came in the context of His covenant with the Father and the Holy Spirit that was made in eternity past.

This is Who you trust. This is Who God the Father trusts. And Jesus, being God and Man, is fully able to do the task of making you into the new improved version of you that He agreed to make you into. He can and will and is keeping His blood covenant with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit and you are a beneficiary. Praise God!

If we receive the witness of men,

5:9 If *we are purposely taking (along); getting hold of; receiving, the witness of the men,

the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he

the witness of the God *is greater; because this is the witness of the God which

has testified of his Son.

He has with current results witnessed to in a positive light, encircling *His ^ Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation.

5:9 We will take the word of people as fact. The word of God is far more valuable, far more to be accepted. And what John just covered about Jesus is what God is witnessing to.

He that believes on the

5:10 The one, trusting and being trustworthy, intermingled throughout, the

Son of God has the witness

Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation, of the God is having, the witness

in himself: he that believes not

in the sphere of influence of himself; the one, non-absolutely not, trusting and being trustworthy,

God has made him a

to the God *has with current results made; appointed, *Him [a]

liar; because he believes not

liar; falsifier; deceptive and untrustworthy [one], because absolutely not, he has with current results trusted and been trustworthy,

the record that God gave

intermingled throughout, the witness which *^*God has with current results witnessed to in a positive light,

of his Son.

encircling *His ^ Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation,

5:10 Those of us who trust Jesus to deliver us from sin and from sinfulness and are trustworthy to live by God's lifestyle principles, those of us who respond to Jesus as He is represented in the above verses, have the witness of God in ourselves. Our very transformation is a witness to Jesus. It is evidence that Jesus really is doing His job in us.

Anyone who does not respond to Jesus as He was represented above, anyone who does not enter into a relationship with God through Jesus and trust Jesus to deliver him from sin and from sinfulness via the Father's mercies and is not trustworthy to live by God's lifestyle principles, is making God out to be a liar because he is not accepting and living by the report God is giving about Jesus. God made a statement, and if you say the statement is not true you are calling God a liar. That's what these people do.

And this is the record, that God has given to us eternal life,

5:11 And this is the witness, that *the *God *gave *eternal life; living by God's eternal lifestyle principles in the various circumstances of life so we have the effects on others God intends for us to have so God is glorified and people end up blessed; the eternal lifestyle principles we should live by; everlasting life with God, to us,

and this life is

and this ^ life; ability and controlling of circumstances for the good of others and self, *is

in his Son.

in the sphere of influence of, *His ^ Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation,

5:11 Here John states God's witness or report about Jesus in short form: God gave us His eternal lifestyle principles to live by, and these come to us via Jesus. Jesus is the "Son" of God, He is in a unique relationship with God, He is naturally like God, and He derives His lifestyle principles from God the Father. And Jesus is passing this life, this eternal life which is the lifestyle principles of God, on to us. (Living forever with God comes along with this, but that is not the topic here.) This is what God the Father is witnessing or reporting to us.

He that has the Son has

5:12 The one, having the Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation, is having,

life; *and* he that

the life; ability and controlling of circumstances for the good of others and self; the one

has not the Son of

non-absolutely not having the Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation of the

God has not life.

God *absolutely not* is having the life; ability and controlling of circumstances for the good of others and self.

5:12 The one having the Son has the life. You, as a Christian, really do have the Son. You have a relationship with Jesus. You have a blood covenant relationship with Jesus. And in a blood covenant relationship each person is totally committed to the well-being of the other one. Jesus made a commitment to you. You basically have rights in the relationship such as expecting to have sins forgiven when you confess them and being transformed and blessed and having prayers granted. And in this relationship you have the eternal lifestyle principles of God in you.

Anyone not having the blood covenant relationship with Jesus does not have the lifestyle principles of God in them, or the blessings that come with that.

The work of Jesus is undoubtedly absolutely sufficient for people regenerated by God. Jesus is the One Who assures our victory and our relationship with God. God says so. And He witnesses the same thing in your spirit. Sin is not a deal breaker. God sees us the way He does due to the work of Jesus. You are different. You are acceptable to God.

5:13-15 *Rest assured. You have such a strong relationship with God that He responds to you. You have the victory. You can know you have a relationship with God, be bold to ask things from God due to that relationship, and expect them to be granted. God truly sees you as a victor. A victor He created. Sin is not a deal breaker.*

These things have I written to you that believe

5:13 *I wrote these things to you,* to the ones,* trusting and being trustworthy,

on the name

{*} intermingled throughout,* the {*}(character, dignity, authority, reputation attached to a) name,

of the Son of God;

{*} of the,* Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation,* of the,* God,

that you may know

in order that; explanation: you might be generally understanding and comprehending (by experience) (how),

that you have eternal life,

that *you are having *eternal life; living by God's eternal lifestyle principles in the various circumstances of life so we have the effects on others God intends for us to have so God is glorified and people end up blessed; the eternal lifestyle principles we should live by; everlasting life with God,

and that you may believe

<and in order that; explanation: you might be trusting and be being trustworthy,

on the name

intermingled throughout the (character, dignity, authority, reputation attached to a) name,

of the Son of God.

of the Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation of the God>.

5:13 Here the 2 Greek texts vary. And both texts have good ideas. Both versions tell us John is writing so his readers will be assured that they have God's eternal lifestyle principles.

The longer version, by the way words are positioned, tell us John is writing to people who trust and are trustworthy toward Jesus, toward the full characteristics of the Son of God, the One with a unique relationship with God. This version also tells us John wrote so the readers would continue to have this trust and trustworthiness.

The shorter version shows us that having God's lifestyle principles is associated with the ones who trust and are trustworthy toward Jesus: trust and be trustworthy and you do have these principles in you as part of your life. "You have eternal life- God's eternal lifestyle principles- associated with the ones trusting and being trustworthy." And the phrase can also at the same time mean John is writing to the ones who trust and are trustworthy toward Jesus. "I wrote to you.., to the ones trusting and being trustworthy." John's readers are trusting and being trustworthy.

Either way, John is assuring his readers that they have God's lifestyle principles in them. They are trusting and being trustworthy toward God. This means that sin has not broken the relationship. And the blessings that come with that, such as living with God forever, would also therefore be assured.

We must remember that in this chapter John is writing to young men and fathers, not to little children. Little children do not yet have this assurance, this eternal security. See 4:1; 3:9.

And this is the confidence

5:14 And this is the assurance; free open plain bold authoritative speech or act; confidence,

that we have in him, that, if

which we are having, having intertwinement with Him, that if possibly,

we ask any thing

*** we might ourselves to our own benefit ask; beg; demand what is due, anything**

according to his will, he hears us:

corresponding in all points to *His ^ inclination toward the pleasurable, He is hearing, from us.

5:14 Because we are confident of our relationship with God, we are direct and honest and bold when we communicate requests to Him. And we expect God to pay attention. Imagine that. We expect the infinite God, the One who created this universe, to pay attention to puny us. And for good reason. We have a covenant relationship with Him. We are dinky, but He is so large He can and does know us anyway. And He wants to know us. And He pays attention to us.

There is a condition, a limit, to what we can expect God to listen to from us. We have to ask in line with His will. Our requests must match up with His lifestyle principles and the commands to love and the types of things we know God does, and even with what we see God doing in the world today. We have been given the mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2:16). We can pretty much figure out what is in God's will for today.

And if we know

5:15 And if possibly, we might be generally understanding and comprehending (by experience) (how),

that he hear us, whatever we ask,

that He is hearing, from us, what if possibly, we might ourselves to our own benefit ask; beg; demand what is due,

we know that we have

we are generally understanding and comprehending (by experience) (how), that we are having,

the petitions that we desired of him.

the thing asked, which we have with current results asked; begged; demanded what is due, aside Him.

5:15 And beyond that, we are expectant. We expect God to give us what we ask for when we ask for something that matches up with His lifestyle principles and goals. We know God will grant it. It fits what we have seen and experienced to expect God to grant the request. We may have to wait for it, we may not get it the way we expect, but God does not ignore us. He gets glory, we get blessed.

We have problems with sin, but that is not a relationship breaker, and we know it. We are victors. We are being transformed to be the people God wants us to be. And, as part of our 2-way relationship with God, He responds to us. We receive His lifestyle principles; He receives our requests.

5:16-20 *Sin is not a deal breaker. Now John deals directly with the question of sin in the lives of young men and fathers. Sin for these people is not a relationship breaker. It is not a deal breaker. It*

disturbs the relationship but it does not end it. In fact, we are victors. We do right. God is at work in us. We have eternal life and life everlasting with God. We know this.

Why didn't John deal with the sin question for all of us right up front? Why make us wait till the end of this book? Simple. You can not understand this until you understand the distinctions between little children, young men, and fathers, and until you understand how God views you and why. And this is a short book. Did you really have to wait that long?

5:16-17 *Sin does not break our relationship with God. God built in a plan for dealing with sin. Except for one type of sin, which John brings out in verse 21, and only little children- who John is not otherwise writing to in this chapter- can do that sin.*

John brings out 2 types of sin. One breaks covenant relationship with God, the other does not. You should pray for someone caught up in sin that does not break relationship with God, and not pray for the other person.

If any man sees

5:16 **„If possibly, anyone might generally understand and comprehend (by experience) (how); see,**

his brother sin

***his ^ brother; member of a group one identifies with, sinning; doing an (evil) (standards failing relationship destroying) not witnessing act,**

a sin which is not to

„[a] sin; not-witness with its rewards, non-absolutely not, having intertwinement with,

death, he shall ask, and

„death; separation; incapable-of-functioning, he will ask; beg; demand what is due, and

he shall give him life

„He will give, * life; ability and controlling of circumstances for the good of others and self,

for them that sin not

„to him, to the ones, non-absolutely not, sinning; doing an (evil) (standards failing relationship destroying) not witnessing act,

to death. There is

„having intertwinement with, death; separation; incapable-of-functioning; „[there] is,

a sin to death:

„sin; not-witnessing with its rewards, having intertwinement with, death; separation; incapable-of-functioning;

I do not say that

absolutely not, *I am saying, encircling that in order that; explanation:

he shall pray for it.

he might request as a favor as one equal to another (with earnestness); ask (when seeking info).

5:16 When you catch a Christian sinning you can pray for him and God will bring that person back to living by God's lifestyle principles, in other words, to not living in sin, and will restore the fellowship of the relationship. Provided, and this is a big dividing line, providing it is not a sin associated with death, providing it is not a sin associated with separation, which is what death really is. There is a sin that leads to separation from God. It terminates a person's covenant relationship with God. The first type of sin, sin not associated with separation, violates God's lifestyle principles, it causes harm to God and possibly to man, but it is not intended to break your covenant relationship with God. You chase after the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life, but not with the goal of terminating your relationship with God. If you know someone doing this type of sin, pray for him. Definitely pray for him. On the other hand, if there is someone who chooses to walk away from God, John does not say to pray for him. This is probably because the person has made a decision to not have a covenant relationship with God and God will honor that decision. God does not force anyone into a covenant relationship with Him. Ever. And God will not offer a Plan B to get the person into relationship with Him. It is through Jesus as originally presented or there will be no relationship.

Only a "little child" can do the sin unto death / separation from God.

All unrighteousness

5:17 Every (life or act of) trait of violating obligatory standards for fellowship and thus rights and privileges of others,

is sin: and there is a sin

***is sin; not-witnessing with its rewards; and [there] is sin; not-witnessing with its rewards,**

not to death.

absolutely not, having intertwinement with death; separation; incapable-of-functioning.

5:17 Any and all failures to meet God's standards, to fail to live by God's lifestyle principles, is sin. They are all failures to witness to the majesty of God, which is what sin is in the end.

Not all of these failures to live up to God's standards by living by God's lifestyle principles lead to separation from God. They don't all lead to the ending of covenant relationship with God. Most disturb the relationship, but they don't end it.

5:18-20 Note "know" in 18,19,20. We know from experience or observation or just from knowing how God is working, that God has made us victors: God is transforming us and enabling us and we are keeping ourselves from the sin that would break our relationship with God. We know we are under the umbrella of God while the world is under the umbrella of Satan. We know we have commonality with

God because of the work of Christ IN us. We know what God is doing, so we know how God views us. Sin is not a deal breaker. Never can be. God is at work. In you.

5:18-20 *In verses 16-17 John has briefly brought little children into the discussion to make a point. There are 2 types of sin, one breaks relationship with God, one does not. Now John is going to make an important point. Young men and fathers do not have to worry about doing the sin that breaks fellowship with God. They are past that point. It is not going to happen. Instead, sin or no sin, we are victors. We have relationship with God and we do God's will God's way, at least at times.*

We know that

5:18 **We are generally understanding and comprehending (by experience) (how), that**

whoever is born

every the one, having been with current results begotten; caused to have certain characteristics,

of God sins not;

from; out of the God absolutely not, is sinning; doing an (evil) (standards failing relationship destroying) not witnessing act,

but he that is begotten of

but the one, having been begotten; caused to have certain characteristics, from; out of

God keeps himself, and that

the God is watching closely (to be in line with; preserve, keep safe), him; himself, and the

wicked one touches him not.

evil; hurtful [one], absolutely not, is himself to his own benefit touching (with something) to the point what is touching or what is touched is modified; fastening to him.

5:18 If you do not take into account that there are 3 types of Christians, at 3 stages of the Christian life, there will seem to be contradictions. It will look like Christians sin, and don't sin, and you end up wondering, "Which is it?" This is one of the verses that increases that confusion. Unless you recognize the 3 types of Christians, little child and young man and father. When you do recognize the 3 types of Christians, as soon as you see John talking about the one having been "begotten" or "regenerated" or "born" or, as the Greek really means, "caused to be a certain way", then you know which Christians John is referring to. He is referring to young men and fathers. He is not referring to little children. (See 3:1-9). So let's look at the next 3 verses from this perspective.

We know, by experience or observation, that the ones who have been caused by God to be a certain way, that is, to have made a permanent commitment to God and to live by His lifestyle principles, do not sin. There is one particular sin these people do not do. These people, the young men and fathers, do not ever walk away from their relationship with God. Period. Instead, these 2 types of Christians keep an eye on themselves and make sure they never cross the line of purposely terminating their

relationship with God. They will do other sins, but never this one. And Satan and his world system can do nothing to change this. No temptation, no religious persecution, will get a regenerated person to leave God.

And we know that

5:19 **we are generally understanding and comprehending (by experience) (how), that**

we are of God, and the whole world

*** we are from; out of the God, and the *whole harmonious orderly arrangement; decoration; world,**

lies in wickedness.

*** is set out (in preparation), in the sphere of influence of the evil; hurtful [one].**

5:19 We know we are different. We are related to God. Our lifestyle principles come from God. We live like God in this world. The world of non-Christians, on the other hand, lies in the evil of Satan and his alternate lifestyle principles. They do this because they are in a covenant relationship with Satan, though they usually don't know it, and this is what young men and fathers are guarding themselves from ending up in again. They started there, and they are determined not to go back. Non-Christians are not able to do this.

And we know

5:20 *** Continuing in this topic or context, we are generally understanding and comprehending (by experience) (how),**

that the Son of God

that the Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation, of the God

is come, and has given

is arriving; being present, and He has with current results given,

us an understanding, that

*** through-the-center-of-understanding, to us, in order that; explanation;**

we may know

we <might be> // {are} (partly, interactively, appreciatively, applicably) knowing,

him that is true, and we are in him that is true,

the genuine [one; thing]; and we are, in the sphere of influence of the genuine [one; thing],

even in his Son

in the sphere of influence of *His ^ Son; one with a relationship due to a common situation,

Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and

Jesus; Savior; Yahweh is salvation, Christ; Anointed. This is the genuine God and <the> eternal life.

***eternal life; living by God's eternal lifestyle principles in the various circumstances of life so we have the effects on others God intends for us to have so God is glorified and people end up blessed; the eternal lifestyle principles we should live by; everlasting life with God.**

5:20 This is really a summary verse of what Jesus has done and what we now have as Christians. The Son of God, with all that means, is here, and He has given and continues to give us commonality with God, meaning we are receiving and being enabled to live by God's lifestyle principles. He has given us insight so we know with assurance due-to-the-context-we-see-things-in the Truth, and that we are in that Truth, meaning we are under the influence and guidance of God's Son Jesus Christ with all the reality that comes with Who He is and what He is doing for us.

"This (One) is the true God and the life eternal." This describes Jesus. He is very God of very God, and He is the source of God's eternal lifestyle principles in us by Himself coming into our lives, supplying and living God's lifestyle principles within us and through us as the Holy Spirit enables us and guides us to do so in the various circumstances of life. This is Who we rely on. This is Who God the Father relies on. He is the reason sin is not the covenant breaker between God and us that so many people worry about. He is the One who transforms us and who keeps us in covenant relationship with God forever. To Him be all the glory.

5:21 *The one type of sin that is a deal breaker, with an exhortation for "little children" to avoid it. To the very end John never forgets the little children, the ones he started out writing to.*

Little children, keep yourselves from

5:21 **Dear children or students, keep separate for safety; obey; guard yourselves from idols. Amen.**

the images (to worship; worshipings of an idol; images to represent false gods; false gods worshiped in images, so be it).

5:21 Idolatry is the one type of sin that is a deal breaker. Choosing to worship an alternate God will end your covenant relationship with God. John gives an exhortation for "little children" to avoid it. Do not ever choose to worship an alternate God. To the very end John never forgets the little children, the ones he started out writing to. Unlike the young men and the fathers, they can do this sin, and John wants them to grow up into young men and fathers instead. He wants them to worship God and benefit from that. So he closes this letter with this final word to them.

Conclusion:

God wants you! Sin is not a deal breaker.

Except for the little child who wants to break it.

Thank you for reading this book. I pray that it is useful for you.

Why Sin is NOT a Deal Breaker

Jesus is our middle man. He stands between the wrath of God the Father and you. He is our helper. He is our "propitiation". A propitiation is a removal of whatever friction causes a separation between 2 people, AND a restoration of the relationship.

Before God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit created the universe, they knew God's wrath would be turned on you. And they did some things about it, way back then. They decided God the Father would send God the Son to die on the cross, and while He hung on the cross Jesus waited on the cross for the Father's mercies for your sins, and gained the right, with your permission and cooperation, to bring you back into relationship with God, and to change you on the inside so you do things that please God and end up with you being blessed.

Jesus is the reason sin is Not a deal breaker.

You might want to stop and give Him some praise right now.

Does My Sin Break My Relationship with God?

No.

Why?

Because Jesus dealt with it.

2000 years ago.

Jesus waited for the Father's mercies for every sin you will ever do- He paid a horrendous price to do that when He hung on the cross- 2000 years ago. Done deal.

And... Jesus set the stage back then to change you Now. As you grow in Christianity Jesus works on the INside of you. Day by day He works to get you so you will Do God's will God's way. You learn God's lifestyle principles, and why He does them and when, and the Holy Spirit enables you to do them instead of the greed and lust Satan pushes you toward.

Are you perfect now?

No.

Will you be by the time you die?

No.

But Jesus took care of all that.

Your job is to let God change you. Read the Bible, pray, be with other Christians. Your relationship with God will grow stronger. Your rewards in heaven will grow greater. God will give you meaningful things to do.

And that sin?

God dealt with it.

There will be less of it. And...

Sin (not) to death

Sin: fail to do God's lifestyle principles and witness to the majesty of God.

Death: separated from God.

Sin not unto separation / death: Most sins disturb the relationship without ending it. You violate God's lifestyle principles, cause harm to God and possibly to man. You chase after the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life, but don't want to break your covenant relationship with God. 1:8-9; 5:16. God does not break off relationship with you when you sin this way. You walk in the light (seek relationships) and still sin. You imperfectly (due to sin) attempt to live by unconditional commitment to the well-being of others (love). When God is living IN us and through us God's unconditional commitment is complete and perfect in us.

Sin unto separation / death terminates a person's covenant relationship with God. It is the primary, main sin. We form an alternate relationship with an alternate god and attached to it are the alternate lifestyle principles that lead us to do all the other sins. We do things outside of God's lifestyle principles, separate from a relationship of commonality with God, separate from God's guidance. This is The Sin of 3:4-9; 5:16. In Adam each of us did The Sin.

All non-Christians are in a covenant relationship with Satan and his alternate lifestyle principles, one of idolatry, having a false god to worship and obey.

Purity of relationship with God and His lifestyle principles and The Sin don't mix.

Everyone does the sins of 1:9. Of Christians: "little children" might do the sin of 3:9 (and cease being Christian), "young men" never will (they have "eternal security").

For Christians **Jesus** deals with sin and eventually disposes of it. In eternity only what we did as God lived Himself, His eternal lifestyle principles, through us will remain. All the sin will be gone.

For now even when we sin we have the purity God requires of us now. God supplies forgiveness and unconditional commitment to our well-being, maintaining our relationship with Him.

Little children have a relationship with God. Their sins have been forgiven and the transformation to not sinning has begun. They are trying Christianity out. They can choose to do The Sin unto death / separation from God, ending their covenant relationship with God. Do not pray for him. He stops being a Christian. God honors their decision. God offers no Plan B to get the person into relationship with Him. Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

Young men don't do The Sin. They are strong, the Word of God remains in them, and they have conquered the evil (one) who seeks their worship (2:13, 14). The Holy Spirit transforms their knowledge of and relationship with God so they have a permanent commitment to God. God won't let them be so tempted they choose to worship a false god. Satan can't change this. They will never worship any false god. Young men and fathers guard themselves from ending up with Satan again.

We are conquering the world. Sin is not our ruler. Jesus is. We are **victors**. We have a relationship with God. We trust God and are trustworthy. God puts His lifestyle principles (eternal life) IN us so we live by light (seeking relationships), being unconditionally committed to the well-being of others, caring for people, enjoying the relationship of commonality of similarity with God and Christians. Sinlessness has not yet been perfected. The deal with God is not broken. This is how God sees us. We will spend eternity with God. Sin is not a deal breaker. We can be assured of this.

Comparing 1:8-9 and 3:3-9, if we don't know the difference between little children, young men, and fathers it will look like all Christians sin and don't sin, and we end up wondering, "Which is it?"

Cain was not devoted to God and did not have God's best interests in mind, or those of God's followers. Cain reacted by eliminating the one who exposed him.

Extra! Extra! What the Angels Learned

1 John 5

“Do you feel like running a victory lap or two, now that we have looked at the 3 types of Christians?”

Unfurling his wings, he says, 'Well, I'd rather fly.'

I just smile. “Today, I think we will look at the victorious life young men and fathers have. God sees them as victors. They sin, but it is not a deal breaker for them. They stay in relationship with God.”

'They have been changed by Jesus so they are committed to others like God is. I have seen that.'

“Good. Let's look at that. First, we need to look at how God's young men and fathers become victors.”

'Okay.'

“The first part of the victory is that these young men and fathers, these permanent Christians, trust Jesus to be the Anointed One who receives the lifestyle principles from the Father and passes those on to them. But they don't do this just because they were such good people to begin with. They are caused to be that way by God. They are caused to have a similarity to God. God brings them to the point that they trust Jesus to do His part, and they are also brought to the point that they are trustworthy to live by those lifestyle principles themselves. They are victors because of what the Father and the Son are doing in them.

“And what is the main lifestyle principle?”

'Being committed to others. Caring. Love.'

“That's right. They are caused to be committed to the well-being of others. And the commitment is directed in certain ways. These Christians aren't committed to Satan or to his ways. They are committed to the Father who causes them to live right, and for that reason they are also committed to Jesus who is the One the Father has caused to be like Himself by giving Him the lifestyle principles, because those two are in covenant with each other. Their covenant relationship is why the Father is causing Jesus to be similar to Himself. And when you are committed to someone who is in a covenant with another, you are also committed to the all the parties in the covenant. At least, this is true when they are in a blood covenant, a covenant of sharing one's very life, which is what this covenant is. To be committed to One is to be committed to the Other.”

'Okay. That makes sense.'

“It goes even further. Being committed to the Father and to Jesus also means Christians are committed to each other. The relationship believers have with God is a blood covenant relationship, a sharing of one's very life with the other. Jesus shares His life with all of God's followers. Since they share their lives with Him, they share their lives with each other. They are committed to each other. They care for each other. They are victors not only in their worship of God alone but also in their being committed to and caring for people other than just themselves, namely, for Christians.”

'God's followers are caused to be this way. God causes them to be victors.'

“That's right.”

'Okay, but how do they know they are committed to and caring for- loving- each other the right way that makes them into victors? What experience tells them this?' He shrugs his wings.

“Two things. First, they have to be unconditionally committed to the well-being of God. Just think of it. They exist to bring glory to God. They affect God's glory. And that is important to God. In this area, in their own small way, they have God's back.”

'That truly is amazing.'

“And they do that by doing God's 3 commands, by being unconditionally committed to God and to their neighbors and to each other. When they live like God by living by His lifestyle principles, by letting Jesus live those principles through themselves, they bring glory to God.”

'And that is the goal of doing the 3 commands- to bring glory to God.'

I smiles at him. “Very good. You really are about ready to teach.”

He smiles back. 'And that is how they know they are victors.'

“There is one more thing to consider here. God shows unconditional commitment to them by enabling them to do His commands. They don't do them in their own abilities. God enables them to be victors. And as a result the commands aren't a burden for them to do. They often aren't easy, but they aren't overbearing requirements. God transforms them, He works IN them by Jesus implanting the lifestyle principles IN them, so the lifestyle principles are natural to do, at least in some ways. They desire to do the three types of love God wants done so God will be glorified and people will be blessed, and they do DO them, even if not perfectly. The lifestyle principles are part of the very context of the way they think.”

He nods. 'Because everyone caused by God to be like God as much as they are is overcoming the world's ways, its temptations, doing the 3 types of caring or love is not a burden. And they overcome because they are trusting God to do His part and so they are trustworthy toward Him, doing God's will God's way, with the results God wants.'

“Their trust and trustworthiness is their victory. It's how they overcome.”

'They know by experience and by the Holy Spirit witnessing in them that their Savior, the One who is forgiving them and making up for their failures to glorify God and implanting and living God's lifestyle principles through them, getting them back into God's good graces, their Savior Jesus is the unique Son of God, the One with a one-of-a-kind relationship with God because He is like God by living by God's lifestyle principles. And they live their lives on that basis.'

“You have been listening well.”

'I have.'

“We better take a different look at Jesus. They- and the Father- are trusting Jesus Christ, as being absolutely sufficient to transform them, treating Jesus as all the support they need to be victors.”

'They are.'

“Jesus- 'God is salvation', Christ- 'the Anointed One'. He came as a full human being. He lived as man is meant to live. As a man, the perfect Man, He understands what is to be human. He lived it. And He also got the rights a perfect person gets. He, being the only perfect human, gets to claim the Earth from Satan, and He will do so in the future.”

He nod as I keep talking.

“And He came in the context of a blood covenant relationship with God the Father. Before the universe was created the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit adopted roles they would be in in this universe. Jesus is called the lamb that was slain before the world was made. He was born to die. In His dying on the cross He showed God's mercy by applying it to every person's sin. That's why He was born and died- to show God's mercy. This universe was created so Jesus could show God's mercy. The people were created so they would willfully sin and need mercy, so Jesus has someone to show mercy to. And all this happens so angels like you and me can see what mercy is like. That's why we watch people continually. We get to learn what God is like. Especially His mercy.”

'I certainly watch.'

“The cross is the center of God's mercy. And we learn more about God's mercy as we see people daily receiving and giving mercy.”

'Giving mercy?'

“Certainly. When people live by God's lifestyle principles they show mercy to people who wrong them. We get to see what God is like as they do that.” I pause. “When I think about it, not only did Jesus show mercy, He received it. But that is a topic for another analysis- the God N Me analysis that is available separately.” Another pause. “Jesus lived all the aspects of the covenant. This type of covenant requires each party to share his life with the other one. Jesus received the lifestyle principles He was to live by from God the Father. And Jesus shared His life with God the Father by His prayers and His obedience. They affected each other.

“Jesus didn't come to earth just to do what He wanted. He came in flesh to fulfill the needs of the blood covenant relationship. He lives up to His name 'God is salvation' by everything He does for people, including the mercies He gained for people on the cross, and He lives up to His name 'Anointed One' by getting the lifestyle principles He lives by from the Father and passing them on to people.”

'I think this is supposed to be a short story. So people can get a quick easy grasp of the ideas.'

“It is.”

'Well, you are getting awfully wordy.'

I just laugh. “I just covered the relevant parts of blood covenant relationship. There is more...”

He smile and shakes his head.

I go on. “And the Holy Spirit, who is the Truth and must tell all things that are Truth, is witnessing that Jesus did and is doing all this. This God/Man is the One the Father and the people are trusting.”

'And rightly so.'

“The people have all the support they need.

“There are 3 witnesses to Jesus being sufficient to do the job, and trustworthy to do it. The Holy Spirit, His life on Earth, and His keeping His covenant with the Father. All 3 witnesses say the same thing: Jesus is sufficient and trustworthy to do the job.

“Men witness to Who Jesus is and what He does.” I wave my hand around the room. “But there is a much greater witness.” I point up. “God the Father is witnessing to the above things about Jesus. They have a sufficient Savior who is keeping His covenant with the Father. The result is that God views His followers as victors.

“Any person trusting Jesus and being trustworthy to live the way Jesus is enabling them to live has the same witness in himself. Jesus is living in him, he reacts to situations the way God wants, loves God and neighbors and other Christians, and is walking living proof that Jesus is sufficient and makes him into a victor.”

'And I assume they have the Holy Spirit in them witnessing to them in their spirits.'

“That's right. Now the people who fail to trust God make God out to be a liar, since they contradict what God is presenting as Truth.

“And quite simply the Truth God presents is that He- God- gave eternal life to His people.”

'By eternal life I assume you mean God's lifestyle principles that Jesus is implanting in people, not just to live forever.'

“That's right. And people get this eternal life from Jesus, God's Son, the One who is in a special intimate relationship with the Father and receives the lifestyle principles, the eternal life, directly from the Father.”

'They are literally images of God just like Jesus was the image of God on Earth as they live out the eternal life they get from Jesus. It is all a result of Jesus being in a blood covenant relationship with the Father, and them being in a blood covenant relationship with Jesus. It is no wonder God views them as victors.'

“And people who don't have a blood covenant relationship with Jesus don't have the eternal life.”

I pause, preparing to change the direction of our talk again. “God's followers can know they have eternal life flowing through them because they trust and are trustworthy with reference to the full scope of the traits of Jesus. They have experience, information, and an intuitive grasp of the rest of it.

“And so they have boldness to expect Jesus to say 'yes' to their requests when it is something that matches up with God's general will.

“And so they intuitively as well as experientially know they will get what they ask for.

“AND...”

My voice gets noticeably louder. That gets his attention.

“... a big thing to ask for is to restore someone to full fellowship who is sinning. As long as it is not the sin of idolatry, which young men and fathers can't do anyway.”

'You are saying sin disrupts the relationship but it does not end it.'

“That's right. A Christian can catch a young man or father sinning. Instead of turning his back on the sinner, he should pray for the sinner. And no matter how grievous the sin, or how frequent, he can pray confidently, expecting God to grant the request. God wants full fellowship with His followers. And full fellowship requires Christians to live like God does. Prayer is an invitation for God to act. God is then free to intervene, bringing the sinner to see things in a godly context, adapting his worldview, leading him to again trust God and be trustworthy toward God.”

'So Jesus passes on the Father's forgiveness and transforms him some more.'

“That's right. The goal of the sin is selfish, it may be horrendous, and even repetitive, but it is never meant to break his relationship with God. The sinner is enticed by and chasing after one of the three

types of sin, the lust of the flesh or the lust of the eyes or the pride of life. These distract a person from God, from doing God's will God's way in God's time for God's glory, but they are not being done from a goal of leaving his relationship with God. A person can pray for the sinner to respond to God's message and generosity and mercy and forgiveness and transformation, expecting God to bring it about."

'And the sinner ends up living by God's lifestyle principles once again. It seems that the one praying has the sinner's back, and he asks God to have the sinners back and front and sides and everything.'

'So, if someone is entering an idol's temple to worship, like I just saw...'

"Ahhht! I said a young man or a father. They will never do idolatry."

'Yes, but what about a little child..?'

"A little child can do sins like described above, and not lose his relationship with God. Those are sins 'not to death', sin not done for the purpose of breaking one's relationship with God. But, and this is a big but, a little child might decide to go worship an alternate god. When he does this he is deciding to not stay in his relationship with God. He is doing the 'sin to death', the sin that results in his separation from God. That's what death is, separation. And God says do not pray for him. That person has experienced relationship with God, he has experienced forgiveness and God's peace and the rest, and rejected it while he was experiencing it. He has decided he prefers what Satan offers, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. He has decided against God, for Satan. He has purposely rejected relationship with God. They are not to pray for people like that."

'Well, why not. They might change their minds.'

"No. They have rejected God's offer and won't reconsider the offer as is. And God won't make an alternate offer. There is no plan B. The one He has made is plenty sufficient. It has exactly the results He wants. If they don't want that one, it's on them."

'So there is no sense in praying for this person.'

"That's right. God says not to pray for anyone who purposely rejects Him while experiencing what He offers by going back to idolatry."

'They really need to hurry up and become young men.' he remarks. Then he asks, 'Then what about people who have never had a relationship with God?'

"Christians should pray for them. Pray that God will enlighten them and bring them into relationship with God. They have not partaken of what God offers and then rejected the offer, like the little children who reject God have done. God may or not grant that request for any given individual, by the way."

I rustle my wings. "Every act that violates God's standards also detracts from God's glory. It is sin. It fails to witness to the glory of God. There is failure to witness to God's glory that does not end in a termination of relationship with God. While it is selfish and disturbs one's relationship with God (if the person has one to begin with) it does not end the relationship when there is no idolatry- that is, worship of a false god- involved.

"Let's cover 3 things about the young men and fathers before we end this session."

'Okay. Actually, I am a little disappointed this is ending, but I hear you will be giving an all new presentation called Jesus N Me in 50 years or so. You can count me in.'

I smile and just go on. “They know- it is an intuitive thing, bringing in all their experiences and learning and extrapolating it on beyond- they know that everyone who is brought to the point of similarity to God that has happened to themselves does not do THE Sin. None of them will ever do idolatry. They will keep themselves from idolatry using the understanding they have, and Jesus will be working IN them to make sure they don't go astray.”

'So Satan can't grab hold of them and reclaim them for himself.'

“That's right. This is the one sin they cannot do. And... they know they are different from people still under Satan's influence. The young men and fathers have been changed by God, so they have the same outlook on life God has and the same lifestyle principles. The world, on the other hand, still is guided by Satan's outlook and the lust of the eyes and the lust of the flesh and the pride of life.

“And... they know, again, intuitively and due to the context of their lives, that Jesus, the One with a unique eternal relationship with God, came and gave them understanding so they could know- by experience, as part of their relationship with God- the Truth. And they don't know the Truth as just some information that they have gained. Truth is so much more. They are IN the Truth.”

He gives me a puzzled look.

“They are IN a life-sharing covenant relationship with the One who is IN a unique life-sharing covenant sharing relationship with the Father Who makes Him the Anointed One who is receiving the lifestyle principles from God the Father and as 'God is Salvation' is forgiving and transforming and implanting the lifestyle principles IN them and just generally doing everything they need done so they are also in covenant relationship with the Father. They know they are in a life-sharing covenant relationship with Jesus Who is truly God and Who is eternal life, with all that means- lifestyle principles and life everlasting.”

He looks down at the floor, waving his wings a bit, letting all this sink in. I interrupt his thoughts after a bit.

“They know they are victors. And what should they say to the little children?”

'Stay away from idolatry!'

“That's right.”

'You sure say “That's right” a lot.'

“That's right.”

God N Me Questions

For this section, the questions go with the verses.

3:4 Who do you depend on to guide your acts? God? The courts? A social group?

You do sins. Do you do "The Sin"?

Who is the #1 source of the principles you live by?

Do you purposely worship someone or something as god instead of or in addition to the One God who is the trinity of God the Father and God the Son and God the Holy Spirit?

Do you dedicate yourself to doing things that God forbids (an indication you may have an alternate god as your guide to life) OR do you do wrong, but more out of compulsion or without thinking it through first (an indication you are looking to God as your guide, and have the normal Christian internal battle between good and evil)?

3:5 When you were born you had an alternate relationship, a relationship with Satan instead of God. Have you replaced that with a relationship with God through Jesus? Have you become a Christian?

Do you sense God working to make you pure?

3:6 Have you made a final decision to stick with God? With God alone? Unbreakable? Permanent? You will know if you have. It settles into your deepest self.

Are you confident in God? In your relationship with God?

God WANTS You. He WANTS You totally. And forever.

What will that mean for Him? What does He get out of it?

What do you get out of this relationship?

3:7 How much do you trust Jesus?

How much do you trust Jesus to make you holy like Himself?

What makes Jesus do holy things? What guides Him? (Where does He get His guidelines for living, His lifestyle principles?)

So, how is it that you don't worship false gods?

Are you avoiding people who teach ideas about Jesus or about how to be holy that are different from what John teaches?

3:8 God WANTS You. Jesus hung on a cross for You. Satan's out, Jesus is in – IN You. Right?

3:9 Satan's out, Jesus is in, IN You. Permanently. Right?

Who is protecting you from Satan moving back in?

Who made you a "young man"- and keeps you there?

You actually have been changed by God. Doesn't it feel great?

And the Holy Spirit makes sure you stay changed. Doesn't that make you feel safer?

There is one sin you won't do just as much as Jesus won't do it. Isn't that great?

And all that means some other sin problems are being dealt with. Not sinless yet, but closer. Is that comforting or what?

You might want to think through some areas you have changed in. Don't write them down. This is private. But think on it. Less pride? Less anger? Less selfishness? Less impulsiveness? Less...

Did I Really Learn It?

Chapter 3

3:4 What is The Sin?

What is the result of doing The Sin?

Discuss "the lawlessness".

Discuss The Sin and Purity.

What is the difference between the sins of 1:9 and The Sin of 3:3?

3:5 What is Jesus' relationship to The Sin?

3:7 What errors must young men beware of in seeking purity?

3:8 Where does Satan fit in with idolatry?

3:4-8 What does purity involve? What does it not involve?

3:9 Does 1:9 contradict 3:9? Why?

Why don't young men do The Sin?

Did I Really Learn It? Answers

Chapter 3

3:4 What is The Sin?

The Sin is to seek a relationship with an alternate god.

What is the result of doing The Sin?

It will result in doing things outside of God's lifestyle principles, separate from a relationship of commonality with God, separate from God's guidance. Part of the forming of the alternate relationship is to accept being given an alternate set of lifestyle principles. The Sin is the primary, main sin, and attached to it are the alternate lifestyle principles that lead us to do all the other sins.

Discuss "the lawlessness".

When you do The Sin of forming a relationship with an alternate god, you act contrary to God's will. You do the first act of lawlessness. You displace God from His role of guide and enabler. This is "the lawlessness". In the process you put yourself in the position of acting lawlessly, that is, contrary to God's will, in the future. All your other lawless acts stem from this one act, from "the lawlessness". All your lawless acts, all your sins, are in this one act of lawlessness.

The Sin is the forming of this alternate relationship again, or of renewing the original one. Included in that alternate relationship are the alternate lifestyle principles. This is what any one doing "the sin" is doing. Doing "the sin" is doing the initial act of lawlessness, "the lawlessness", and this lawlessness is the source of all the other disobedience people do.

Discuss The Sin and Purity.

You cannot be pure and do The Sin. You cannot be pure in your relationship with God and do The Sin. Nor can you be purifying yourself to be living by God's lifestyle principles and also be living by new or renewed alternate lifestyle principles based on an alternate relationship with an alternate god.

What is the difference between the sins of 1:9 and The Sin of 3:4?

The Sin of 3:4 is only one of the sins of 1:9. The sins of 1:9 can involve violation of a relationship, and not involve the forming of an alternate relationship. A person can do all of the other sins of 1:9 all day long and never come close to doing The Sin of 3:4.

3:5 What is Jesus' relationship to The Sin?

Each of us did The Sin, and Jesus takes it away for each of us.

Jesus did not come and do The Sin of seeking a relationship with an alternate god (or any other sin). He did not take part in it so He could identify it or identify more with us or any other reason someone might come up with to try to say He sinned. Jesus is and always was sinless. And it is from this position of purity that He takes away our sins and starts the process of making us pure as He is.

3:7 What errors must young men beware of in seeking purity?

There are people who will try to distract you into the learning aspect of Christianity, and the obedience aspect of Christianity. Our rule keeping attitude and our knowledge is not the basis of our obedience. Self-righteousness, law-keeping, knowing about God, and any other thing you try on your own will not work.

3:8 Where does Satan fit in with idolatry?

Anyone doing the sin of idolatry, of having a false God to worship, is operating from a relationship with Satan.

3:4-8 What does purity involve? What does it not involve?

This doesn't deal with sinlessness, it deals with commitment.

3:9 Does 1:8-9 contradict 3:9? Why?

"The sin" of 3:4, 6, 8, and 9 has to do with forming an alternate relationship with an alternate god. That is it. Only this one kind of sin. Compared to this, the sins of 1:8, 9 include all kinds of sins. A person can do many many kinds of sins and never do "the sin" of 3:4, 6, 8, and 9. Little children can do "the sin", young men and fathers cannot, even if they sin massively and habitually. God has transformed and claimed them to the point this is the one sin they absolutely will never do. If a little child does "the sin" of 3:4 it can be forgiven them under 1:9. No confessed sin is beyond forgiveness.

Why don't young men do The Sin?

They are strong, the Word of God remains in them, and they have conquered the evil (one) who seeks their worship (2:13, 14). The Holy Spirit in them is so thoroughly transforming their knowledge of and relationship with God that they cannot break that relationship and form one with an alternate god. The Holy Spirit won't let them be so tempted that they will choose to do so.

God N Me Questions

We are going to work through the little book of 1 John. I will guide you through some of the ideas John presents. Whether you accept what God says and what God offers is up to you. Right now I can say God WANTS a relationship with you, and He did a lot so you and He can be best friends. In the process you will find out just how important you are. And what God wants to do IN you.

- 5 Have you noticed that John has covered topic after topic, and the 3 types of Christian, and not once has he said that sin is a deal breaker? He has said sin can be dealt with, but not that it breaks your relationship with God. Have you noticed that?

The ones claiming they never sinned, or destroying relationships with God and other Christians rather than building them, or flat-out worshiping false gods, these people didn't know God to begin with. Their sins weren't deal breakers. They never had a deal with God to begin with. Or they were little children who decided against having a relationship with God, and they themselves broke their deal with God. Or they may be little children yet. They are never young men or fathers.

But what about the sins of people who do have a permanent deal with God? What about the sins of these Christians?

- 5:1 Are you committed to God and to doing His will His way in His time?

Do you see that God is causing you to be like you are?

Do you see what He has planted in You? The caring for others? The commitment to Him and His well-being? The insights about Himself you have that nonbelievers don't have?

- 5:2 Do you see yourself as changed by God?

- 5:3 Do you find God's expectations of you to be burdensome? Or are they just part of who you are? And a part of life on the way to your eternal goal?

Do you find God enabling you? And giving you joy in doing His will?

- 5:4 Do you agree with God that you are a victor? Slowly but inevitably?

Do you agree God is the One making you a victor, and you aren't doing it on your own?

- 5:6 Who is this Person God the Father trusts? Who is this Person You trust for your salvation?

How does God the Father know Jesus is sufficient for the job? How do you know?

- 5:7 How strongly is Jesus believed in?

- 5:8 Is Jesus witnessed to enough? Are the witnesses sufficient?

- 5:9 Do you accept God's witness to Jesus?
- 5:10 Do you accept God's witness or are you calling God a liar? Does your life witness to Jesus being alive in you?
- 5:11 Are you praising God today for the eternal life God is giving you?
Take time- do it now!
- 5:12 How do you "have" the Son? How do you "have" the life?
- 5:13 Develop the idea of trust and trustworthiness.

What does "name" stand for?

In what ways do you most trust Christ?
- 5:14 What are you like when you are confident before God?

Do you expect God to pay attention? Really? When?
- 5:15 What happens in life's situations when you ask? Any examples from your life?

How is God viewing You when He responds this way?
As a loser or a victor?
- 5:16 What is sin not unto death?

What is sin unto death?
- 5:17 What do you fail to do when you do sin not unto death?

How does that make God look?

And yet, even with all that, what are you? How does God view you? Is sin a deal breaker?
- 5:18 Do you feel untouchable by The Sin? Can you see yourself ever doing The Sin?
- 5:19 How clear is the dividing line between you and the world? Is it really obvious to others?
- 5:20 Do you know where you fit in now – little child, young man, or father?

Do you know the meaning of each of the terms in this verse?
[Class final- explain this verse thoroughly.]
- 5:21 The deal breaker. Do you still face it? When did it become a non-issue for you?

Did I Really Learn It?

Chapter 5

- 5:1-20 God sees young men and fathers as _____. Sin is _____.
- 5:1 What does it mean to be "regenerated" or "born" in this verse? And for whom?
- 5:2 We know we are committed to God's followers when _____.
- 5:3 "In a wider context this is the unconditional commitment from and / or toward God":
How do you show commitment toward God?
What is the commitment from God?
- 5:4 Why aren't the commandments burdensome?
Why does God see you as a victor?
- 5:5 What makes you a victor?
What is your trust and trustworthiness based in?
What does God see that makes Him conclude you are a victor?
Why is sin not a deal breaker?
- 5:6 Who is this Person God the Father trusts? Who is this Person You trust for your salvation?
How does God the Father know Jesus is sufficient for the job? How do you know?
- 5:7-8 How does God the Father know Jesus is sufficient for the job? How do you know?
- 5:7 3 witnesses in Heaven. How did each one witness to Jesus?
- 5:8 3 witnesses on Earth. How did each one witness to Jesus?
- 5:11 Explain this verse briefly.
- 5:12 What does it mean to "have the Son"?
- 5:13 What are John's readers assured of?
- 5:14 What are young men and fathers bold about?

What is the limit to what we can expect God to respond to?

5:15 What do we expect when we pray according to God's will?

5:16 What is sin not unto separation / death?

What is sin unto death?

5:17 What is sin?

Most sins don't end the relationship with God. What do they do to the relationship?

5:18 What old problem crops up again here if you don't know the difference between little children, young men, and fathers?

Who is referred to in this verse and what sin is referred to?

Why do they not do this sin?

5:19 Compare the Christian and the non-Christian.

5:20 Do you know where you fit in now – little child, young man, or father? Why this one?

Explain the meaning of each of the main terms in this verse.

5:21 What is the message of this verse?

Why?

1-5 What is the Main teaching of 1 John?

Did I Really Learn It? Answers

Chapter 5

5:1-20 God sees young men and fathers as _____ . Sin is

_____.

In chapter 5 John assures us that sin is not a deal breaker for young men and fathers. God sees us as victors over the world and its ways due to God at work in us. Sin is not a deal breaker.

5:1 What does it mean to be "regenerated" or "born" in this verse? And for whom?

This verse applies to young men and fathers. They have been "regenerated" or "born" – that is, they have been "caused to be a certain way"- by God. He has been permanently transformed and brought into a relationship of commonality with God.

5:2 We know we are committed to God's followers when

_____.

When you have this commitment toward ("love") God and keep God's commandments.

5:3 "In a wider context this is the unconditional commitment from and / or toward God":

How do you show commitment toward God?

Being committed to God and to your neighbors and to fellow Christians. In other words, take care of them, even when it costs you a lot.

What is the commitment from God?

God is committed to our being transformed to measure up to that relationship, and transformed so much that it is not a burden to us to do what we must do.

5:4 Why aren't the commandments burdensome?

Because God has caused you to be a certain way, He has transformed you so you conform to His standard or pattern- His lifestyle principles, He has begotten you, He has transformed you to be obedient to His ways and caring for others. And with these new and improved abilities and attitudes, you conquer the world. The lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life don't absolutely control you. You have the option to obey God and care for people.

Why does God see you as a victor?

Trust and trustworthiness. You now have these toward God, and it shows in how you treat people. This is what God has caused you to be like. And it gives you victory. Before, it was natural to do things the world's way. They made sense and worked out for your goals. Now, it is natural to do things God's way. The world's ways don't fit your goals and they don't even make sense any more. Trust and trustworthiness, ethics, obedience and caring, these are what are natural to you now.

5:5 What makes you a victor?

Trust and trustworthiness

What is your trust and trustworthiness based in?

It is based in Jesus being the Son of God, being the One with a relationship of being anointed by God, of receiving the Father's lifestyle principles from the Father and living by them, and then you receiving them from Jesus and living by them.

What does God see that makes Him conclude you are a victor?

You are trusting God and being trustworthy toward God by living by the eternal lifestyle principles of God. This is what makes you a victor.

Why is sin not a deal breaker?

We are conquering the world. It may not seem like it, but sin is not our ruler. Jesus is. We are victors. We are transformed. We have eternal life, God's eternal lifestyle principles, in us. This is how God sees us. So the deal with God is not broken. We will spend eternity with God.

- 5:6 Who is this Person God the Father trusts? Who is this Person You trust for your salvation?
He came in water and in blood. Water means He was fully human. Beyond this, and true at the same time, there was blood. This is a reference to blood covenant. Jesus came as a result of and as part of living out a covenant He has with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. Jesus. This means "God is salvation". In the covenant Jesus agreed to come to earth to be our Savior, our Deliverer. He receives from the Father and provides to us the forgiveness and the transformation that makes us worthy to be in a relationship with God, and brings us back into that relationship. "God is salvation." Jesus is God in the flesh, working for you. Christ. This means anointed. Jesus is the Anointed One. Jesus did not come to earth and just do any old thing that came to His mind to fulfill His covenant with the Father. No. He came and received God's lifestyle principles from God the Father. Jesus lived by those. He always lived by those. That is the idea of His being anointed. He received something from the Father. And as God is Salvation He passes those lifestyle principles on to us. He lives them IN and THROUGH us. He transforms us.

How does God the Father know Jesus is sufficient for the job? How do you know?

Jesus, being God and Man, is fully able to do the task of making you into the new improved version of you that He agreed to make you into.

- 5:7-8 How does God the Father know Jesus is sufficient for the job? How do you know?

The 3, or 6, witnesses, depending on which version you use.

- 5:7 3 witnesses in Heaven. How did each one witness to Jesus?

These are the Father, who spoke up at Jesus' baptism; and the Word, which in the Old Testament tells a lot of things about what Jesus the Savior was going to be like and go through; and the Holy Spirit Who witnesses to Jesus in our spirits and through miracles and undoubtedly to all the angels in Heaven.

- 5:8 3 witnesses on Earth. How did each one witness to Jesus?

The 3 witnesses are the spirit, which may refer to the Holy Spirit, or may refer to the spirit of Jesus or even your own spirit, which the Holy Spirit is speaking to. John leaves this open to interpretation, maybe intentionally. The water points to the earthly life of Jesus. His lifestyle pointed always to Who He truly is. Watch Him, and you see God in Him. You see the lifestyle principles of God lived by. And the blood. Watch Jesus, study His life, and you see His mission. You see Him living out His covenant with God. What He promised to do, He did. And He did it the way the Father wanted it done. And He did it for the Father.

- 5:11 Explain this verse briefly.

God gave us His eternal lifestyle principles to live by, and these come to us via Jesus. Jesus is the "Son" of God, He is in a unique relationship with God, He is naturally like God, and He derives His lifestyle principles from God the Father. And Jesus is passing this life, this eternal life which is the lifestyle principles of God, on to us. (Living forever with God comes along with this, but that is not the topic here.) This is what God the Father is witnessing or reporting to us.

- 5:12 What does it mean to "have the Son"?

The one having the Son has the life. You, as a Christian, really do have the Son. You have a relationship with Jesus. You have a blood covenant relationship with Jesus. And in a blood covenant relationship each person is totally committed to the well-being of the other one. Jesus made a commitment to you. You basically have rights in the relationship such as expecting to have sins forgiven when you confess them and being transformed and blessed and having prayers granted. And in this relationship you have the eternal lifestyle principles of God in you.

5:13 What are John's readers assured of?

John is assuring his readers that they have God's lifestyle principles in them. They are trusting and being trustworthy toward God. This means that sin has not broken the relationship. And the blessings that come with that, such as living with God forever, would also therefore be assured.

5:14 What are young men and fathers bold about?

Because we are confident of our relationship with God, we are direct and honest and bold when we communicate requests to Him. And we expect God to pay attention.

What is the limit to what we can expect God to respond to?

We have to ask in line with His will. Our requests must match up with His lifestyle principles and the commands to love and the types of things we know God does, and even with what we see God doing in the world today. We have been given the mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2:16). We can pretty much figure out what is in God's will for today.

5:15 What do we expect when we pray according to God's will?

We expect God to give us what we ask for when we ask for something that matches up with His lifestyle principles and goals.

5:16 What is sin not unto separation / death?

Sin not associated with separation, violates God's lifestyle principles, it causes harm to God and possibly to man, but it is not intended to break your covenant relationship with God. You chase after the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life, but not with the goal of terminating your relationship with God.

What is sin unto death?

It terminates a person's covenant relationship with God. If there is someone who chooses to walk away from God, John does not say to pray for him. This is probably because the person has made a decision to not have a covenant relationship with God and God will honor that decision. And God will not offer a Plan B to get the person into relationship with Him. It is through Jesus as originally presented or there will be no relationship. Only a "little child" can do the sin unto death / separation from God.

5:17 What is sin?

Any and all failures to meet God's standards, to fail to live by God's lifestyle principles, is sin. They are all failures to witness to the majesty of God, which is what sin is in the end.

Most sins don't end the relationship with God. What do they do to the relationship?

Not all of these failures to live up to God's standards by living by God's lifestyle principles lead to separation from God. They don't all lead to the ending of covenant relationship with God. Most disturb the relationship, but they don't end it.

5:18 What old problem crops up again here if you don't know the difference between little children, young men, and fathers?

It will look like Christians sin, and don't sin, and you end up wondering, "Which is it?"

Who is referred to in this verse and what sin is referred to?

The ones who have been caused by God to be a certain way, the young men and fathers, do not ever walk away from their relationship with God.

Why do they not do this sin?

These 2 types of Christians keep an eye on themselves and make sure they never cross the line of purposely terminating their relationship with God. They will do other sins, but never this one. And Satan and his world system can do nothing to change this. No temptation, no religious persecution, will get a regenerated person to leave God.

5:19 Compare the Christian and the non-Christian.

We know we are different. We are related to God. Our lifestyle principles come from God. We live like God in this world. The world of non-Christians, on the other hand, lies in the evil of Satan and his alternate lifestyle principles. They do this because they are in a covenant relationship with Satan, though they usually don't know it, and this is what young men and fathers are guarding themselves from ending up in again. They started there, and they are determined not to go back. Non-Christians are not able to do this.

5:20 Do you know where you fit in now – little child, young man, or father? Why this one?

[Personalized answer.]

Explain the meaning of each of the main terms in this verse.

Son – insight – truth – Jesus – Christ – eternal life.

[Class final- explain this verse thoroughly.]

FINAL EXAM

5:21 What is the message of this verse?

Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

Why?

Idolatry is the one type of sin that is a deal breaker. Choosing to worship an alternate god will end your covenant relationship with God.

1-5 What is the Main teaching of 1 John?

FINAL EXAM

God WANTS you. Sin is not a deal breaker.

The Gift



Jesus in my heart makes me valuable

You can be a:

**ValuableMe- I am a bonafide headed-to-Heaven purpose-loaded person
God is delighted to see.**

I help you be one.

**I help you see you the way God sees you and see how to improve
so He sees you with delight**

About the author

I write for people who want to feel significant. I help you discover why you exist, why you suffer, just how much God WANTS You in a relationship with Him, what Jesus did and is doing so you get God's mercies (this is personally important to Jesus). Jesus N Me, Jesus N Mercies, Mercies N Me- this is all planned by God so you can be truly significant.

I'm a writer. I write. I've been mad at God when He gave me info belatedly, forcing me to rewrite. I've delayed on some projects and God has had to nudge me along. Mostly I just DO IT! I write. Theology, commentaries, Bible-teaching novels- I write. Writing is hard. It is frustrating. It is fun. It is my hobby. I write. I did finally have to tell God there is no sense writing if there are no readers. So now I have a little time for promoting, too.

The complete selection of *7Day* opportunities:

Why Do I Exist – Why Do I Suffer?
Am I Important?
What Did Jesus Do For Me?
Did I Do the Sin to Death?
How You Fit In with God
27 Way the Bible Makes Me Better at Work
What Type of Christian Am I?

the Books the *7Day* opportunities are derived from:

God WANTS You
Jesus N Me
14 Ways the Bible Makes Me Better At Work
14 Ways the Bible Gives Me Purpose At Work

Also Available:

- Symbols Language System
- Bible study journals
- Finance spreadsheets
- Novels
- And More...

at 7ddd.info

May God bless you as you explore Who You Are IN Him.