

The Gospel of Christ and the Problem of Sin

Lesson #3

*How the Gospel Addresses the
PERSISTENT PRACTICE of Sin*

Review

1. The Gospel of Christ is God's power to save.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

(Romans 1:16 KJV)

Review

1. The Gospel of Christ is God's power to save.
2. How the Gospel addresses the problem of sin (Acts 2:36-39)
 - a. Facts to be believed
 - b. Commands to be obeyed
 - c. Promises to be embraced

Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

(Acts 2:36-39 KJV)

The PERSISTENT PRACTICE of Sin

3. Sin is universal, pervasive and persistent!

*For all have sinned, and come short of the
glory of God;*

(Romans 3:23, KJV)

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

(1 John 1:8-10, KJV)

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4. The command to REPENT addresses this problem.

Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

(Luke 24:45-47, KJV)

And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

(Acts 17:30 KJV)

I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

(Luke 13:3 KJV)

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5. Repentance is NOT...
 - a. Godly sorrow – feeling bad

For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

(2 Corinthians 7:10, KJV)

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5. Repentance is NOT...
 - a. Godly sorrow – feeling bad
 - b. Conversion – repentance *precedes* conversion.

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

(Acts 3:19, KJV)

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

(Acts 2:38, KJV)

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6. Repentance is a change of heart/mind that results in a change of actions/direction

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Sorrow directed toward God because of what sin cost God.

Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

(Psalms 51:4 KJV)

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9. Godly preaching produces Godly sorrow.

Godly Sorrow Produced Through Preaching

Nathan's Preaching II Samuel 12:7-12	Gospel Preaching Rom. 1:16, I Cor. 15:1-4
An Appeal to God's Love vv. 7-8	An Appeal to God's Love Rom. 2:4

And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul; And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.

(2 Samuel 12:7-8 KJV)

Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

(Romans 2:4 KJV)

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Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

(2 Samuel 12:9 KJV)

*For all have sinned, and come short of the
glory of God;*

(Romans 3:23 KJV)

*As it is written, There is none righteous, no,
not one:*

(Romans 3:10 KJV)

*This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all
acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the
world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.*

(1 Timothy 1:15 KJV)

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Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife. Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun. For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.

(2 Samuel 12:10-12 KJV)

But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,

(Romans 2:5-8 KJV)

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8. David is a perfect example... (Psa. 32 & 51)
9. Godly preaching produces Godly sorrow.
10. Evidence that **true repentance** has occurred.

For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

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True Repentance

a. Carefulness: zeal accompanied by haste

And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

(Acts 16:33 KJV)

And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

(Acts 22:16 KJV)

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

(Acts 2:41 KJV)

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- b. “Clearing of yourselves” : ie., of blame

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- f. “Zeal” - sincere desire to turn from sin to God
- g. “Revenge” - vindication, readiness to see justice done.

How the Gospel Addresses the *Persistent Practice* of sin

1. The command to repent addresses the problem of the persistent practice of sin.
2. True repentance flows from Godly sorrow.
3. Godly sorrow is produced through the preaching of the Word where..
 - a. God's goodness and love are proclaimed
 - b. Sin and sinners are named
 - c. Consequences are explained