

THE CHRISTIAN'S SIN

Intro. Fact of sin in Xn. No eradication. 1 Jn 1:8-10. If eradicated no need for overcoming power of HS. If eradicated then what about examples of NT. Most of epistles written to combat some sin or another. Even P may have sinned in going to Jerus the last time. Xn does not practice all kinds of sin, 1 Jn 3:8-10. Standard is to walk in the light, 1 Jn 1:7 not to become light.

I. The Enemies of the Xn.

A. The World.

1. Its character. Satanically controlled. Counterfeit. Use but don't abuse. But in using we should not love, 1 Jn 2:15. Jas 4:4. "It is at the border line that Satan confuses the issues."
2. The Xn's cure. 1 Jn 5:4. Faith. 1 Tim 6:12. Faith to believe the provisions God has made. Past tense--overcame, looking back to that which identified us with work of X on cross. The crisis experience during which we sided with God.

B. The Devil.

1. His strategy.
 - a. It is planned, Eph 6:11 wiles, methods, craftiness with a knowledge of our weak points.
 - b. It is persistent, 1 Pet 5:8.
 - c. It is powerful, Eph 6:12. Wrestle is used of hand to hand fighting and it's against a superhuman foe. Must never forget that and not seek to explain and care for everything by natural means as we are so prone to do in Xn life and exper
2. The Xn's strategy.
 - a. Resist. Jas 4:7; 1 Pet 5:9 both aorists. Take sides. Be done with devil and all his wiles. Don't flirt with him.
 - b. Equip, Eph 6:13-20.
 - (1) Truth. Around loins bec holds everything tog. Midd shows we do it evidently by taking God's promises in Word and studying it.
 - (2) Breastplate of rtness, 14. Imputed otherwise no confidence.
 - (3) Feet shod with readiness which sense of peace in gospel brings.
 - (4) Shield. Large one for overall protection.
 - (5) Helmet which is salvation, 2 Cor 10:5. Change of vb to receive.
 - (6) Sword. Only offensive weapon. Preached gospel on basis of written word.
 - (7) Prayer. To be alert and persevering. For all and for specifics, 19.

C. The Flesh.

In ethical sense of evil old nature.

It is all that is made old by presence of the new. That includes things that may be good but have become useless. E. g. Peter's fishing in Jn 21.

Provision is co-crucifixion with X. Gal 5:24. Actualization of it is by faith, Rom 6:11-13. Or expressed by walking in Spirit, Gal 5:16. Illus what a walk is.

II. The Preventives for the Xn.

A. The Word of God.

1. A good thing.

2. A good place. Heart center of everything. Center of desires.

3. A good purpose. God hates sin and this prevents.

- B. The Intercession of Christ.
 Illus in Lk 22:32. Seen in Jn 17. Keeping from evil. Positive preventive work.
- C. The Inddwelling Spirit.
1. By teaching us, Jn 16.
 2. By leading our prayer life. Rom 8:26.
 3. *By leading us into service Jn 7:37A-*

III. The Penalty for Sin in the Xn.

- A. To the Xn.
1. Walk in darkness, 1 Jn 1:6. Means giving occasion for stumbling, 1 Jn 2:10.
 2. Loss of joy, Jn 15:11; Gal 5:22.
 3. Loss of fellowship, 1 Jn 1:3, 6-7.
 4. Loss of confidence in prayer, 1 Jn 3:19-22.
 5. ~~xxxx~~ Ashamed at His coming, 1 Jn 2:28. In practical outworking for last generation Xns relates to our testimony to those who will go thru trib.
- B. To the persistent Xn.
 If sin persisted in then comes
1. Chastisement. Heb 12. ~~xxxxxx~~
 2. Scourging, Heb 12:6. Breaking of the will. *Ch. discipline*
 3. Death. 1 Jn 5. 1 Cor 5. 1 Cor 11.
- C. To God.
 Necessity for keeping us saved. 1 Jn 2 is provision made.

- IV. Provision for Xn's sin.
 Summed up in one word--confess. Agree with God about it.

*7. In Temptation
 8. "Sinning"*

"In pastures green? Not always. Sometimes
 He

Who knoweth best, in kindness leadeth me
 In weary ways where heavy shadows be;
 Out of the sunshine, warm and soft and bright,
 Out of the sunshine into darkest night.
 But whether led in green or desert land
 I trust, although I may not understand.
 So where He leads me I can safely go.
 And in the blest hereafter I shall know
 Why in His wisdom He has led me so."

—MRS. W. E. HAWKINS.