

PROPER ATTITUDES TOWARD SIN

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TEXT:

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;” (Romans 3:23).

“And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin” (1John 3:5).

Purpose: To help us to properly evaluate sin - and have proper attitude toward it.

Introduction:

1) Perhaps heard story of one who said "preacher preached against sin" What did he say about it? "Said he was against it".

2) That is what we should be - against it.

3) When we quit preaching against sin we have quit preaching!

4) What should be our attitude toward sin?

I. RECOGNIZE WHAT IT IS

1) “Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law” (1John 3:4).

2) Neglect.

(1) “All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death” (1John 5:17).

(2) “Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin” (James 4:17).

3) Violation of the conscience in matters of indifference. “Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth. And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin” (Romans 14:22-23).

4) Not something inherited. “The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him” (Ezekiel 18:20).

II. WE MUST ADMIT IT

1) Bible shows all been guilty of sin.

(1) “What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin; As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:” (Romans 3:9-10).

(2) “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”

(Romans 3:23).

(3) "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" (1John 1:8-10).

(4) "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. Do not err, my beloved brethren" (James 1:13-16).

2) We are personally responsible for our sins.

(1) Can't blame others.

(2) "And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat" (Genesis 3:12-13).

(3) "And Aaron said, Let not the anger of my lord wax hot: thou knowest the people, that they are set on mischief. For they said unto me, Make us gods, which shall go before us: for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. And I said unto them, Whosoever hath any gold, let them break it off. So they gave it me: then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf" (Exodus 32:22-24).

(4) Can't blame society, etc.

(5) "I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee," (Luke 15:18).

(6) the publican, "And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13).

III. WE MUST HATE IT

1) We avoid things that we hate (foods,)

2) God hates sin. "These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren" (Proverbs 6:16-19).

3) Jesus cast out money changers. "And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise" (John 2:13-16).

4) It is not enough to love the good, must hate the evil.

(1) "Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his

saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked” (Psalm 97:10).

(2) “Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows” (Hebrews 1:9).

(3) Love right, hate wrong.

(4) Love truth, hate error.

(5) Love pure, hate impurity.

(6) Love right, hate darkness.

5) “Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way” (Psalm 119:104).

6) “I hate vain thoughts: but thy law do I love” (Psalm 119:113).

7) “I hate and abhor lying: but thy law do I love” (Psalm 119:163).

8) “I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions” (Proverbs 8:12).

9) “The prince that wanteth understanding is also a great oppressor: but he that hateth covetousness shall prolong his days” (Proverbs 28:16).

10) “But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate” (Revelation 2:6).

11) Hate sin, but love the sinner.

(1) “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

(2) “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

IV. WE MUST RESIST IT, SHUN IT

1) Abstain, “Abstain from all appearance of evil” (1Thessalonians 5:22).

2) Flee, “Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart” (2Timothy 2:22).

3) “But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof” (Romans 13:14).

4) “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world” (1Peter 5:8-9).

5) “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).

6) Jesus resisted. “Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is

written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him” (Matthew 4:1-11).

7) We cannot give an inch to Satan, cannot compromise with him.

(1) “To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you” (Galatians 2:5).

(2) “Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand” (Ephesians 6:13).

V. WE MUST EXPOSE IT

1) God does. “...God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:” (Romans 8:3b).

2) Jesus does. “Then in the audience of all the people he said unto his disciples, Beware of the scribes, which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts; Which devour widows' houses, and for a shew make long prayers: the same shall receive greater damnation” (Luke 20:45-47).

3) The Holy Spirit does. “They said therefore, What is this that he saith, A little while? we cannot tell what he saith.” (John 16:18).

4) John the Baptist. “For John said unto him, It is not lawful for thee to have her.” (Matthew 14:4).

5) Apostles. “Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another” (Galatians 5:19-26).

6) All Christians. “And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them” (Ephesians 5:11).

VI. WE MUST CONQUER IT

1) Conquer it, not continue in it. "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin" (Romans 6:1-7).

2) Drastic measures. "And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:" (Mar 9:43-47) (hyperbole).

3) If we don't conquer sin through Christ, it will conquer us. "Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children:" (2Peter 2:14).

Conclusion:

1) What will help me have proper attitude toward sin?

- (1) Remember sin caused the death of Christ.
- (2) Sin is the only thing that will keep me out of heaven.
- (3) Remember sin is a hard task-master in this life.

2) Review points

3) Fortunately we can be forgiven. "And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin" (1John 3:5).