

Man Vs. Sin
James 1:14-15
By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to show the importance of knowing sin and avoiding it.

- Intro:
1. As humans we all fail and sin, we are not perfect.
 2. However we can still strive to be those who walk in the light of Christ. (**1 Jn 1:7**)
 3. How do we avoid sin?
 4. How do we walk in the light as Christ and the Father desires for us?
- I. Our own consciences tell us of our own sin sometimes. (**2 Sam 24:10**)
- A. David realizes his sin of numbering the people.
 1. He realizes what he has done goes against God's will, thus it is sin.
 2. David then asks for forgiveness, just as we must.
 - B. When we realize we sinned what is our reaction?
 1. David admits sin and pleads for forgiveness, shouldn't we? (**1 Jn 1:9**)
 2. As Christians we can be forgiven, if we are willing to repent. (**1 Jn 1:8**)
- II. Sin does have consequences. (**Gen 3:9-19**)
- A. The two had sinned after being tempted.
 1. They disobeyed God and thus sinned.
 2. They were punished for their sin by being cast out of the garden and now having to work much harder for things than they had previously.
 - B. As Christians just because we repent doesn't mean we don't bear consequences.
 1. We may have to face consequences of our actions after we repent, this is simply part of the recovery after sin. (**2 Sam 12:14** – David's loss cause of his sin)
 2. But we must remember if we truly have repented then we have avoided far worse things. (**Psalms 51:1-10**)
 - C.
- III. We can avoid sin by noticing when it's creeping upon us. (**James 1:14-15**)
- A. We are tempted by our own desires. (**v.14**)
 1. We must not let our desires control us but we control them.
 2. When our desires come above Godly things this causes us to sin, and to sin more easily, thus our focus should be godly things not our own desires. (**Phil 4:8**)
 - B. When we give into our desires it brings forth sin. (**v.15a**)
 1. When desires overtake us and we partake of those desires it brings forth sin. (**James 4:17**)
 2. Thus sin that is separating us from God, it comes between God and us thus it must be taken care of.
 - C. If we do not take care of those sins (repent of them), then it brings forth death. (hell, **v.15b**)

1. Sin that is unrepented of brings forth death, thus we must always have a heart that is willing to repent.
2. If we confess our sins to God and repent we can continue to walk in His light.
(**1 Jn 1:7**-walking in the light referring to one who repents of their sins we they fall short and strives always to walk in the light of Christ, living a Christ-like life.)

- Conc:
1. Are we walking in the light, are we striving always to be perfect as God wants us to be, that is to sin less and less. (**Matt 5:48**)
 2. How do we walk in the light? We do so by going to God in prayer about our problems/our temptations/our trials and He already knowing them will do His will.
(**1 Cor 10:13**)
 3. What's another way we walk in the light, just as we mentioned previously, changing our focus (**Phil 4:8**)
 4. Invitation