

UNMASKING BIBLE TRUTHS School

Lesson 6 Repentance, Temptation and Endurance

I know most of you have likely heard the statement, "We're all just sinners!"

And you especially hear this from professing Christians when they are defending some sin!

No...Christians do not sin!

Lessons The Doctrine of Sin, Are people born with a sin nature, The doctrine of the new birth, the evidences of the new birth...

The Bible makes a clear distinction between sinners and saints, righteous and unrighteous....

Sinners have something they need to do...

Another thing you've most likely heard is, "Well, Jesus hung out with sinners."

Yes, but why?

Lk.5:29-32 And Levi gave a big reception for Him in his house; and there was a great crowd of tax collectors and other *people* who were reclining *at the table* with them.

³⁰ The Pharisees and their scribes *began* grumbling at His disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and **sinners**?" ³¹ And Jesus answered and said to them, "*It is* not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are **sick**. ³² I have not come to call the righteous but **sinners to repentance**."

Those who are "sick" – the Greek word sick here means, "sickly, depraved in nature, an evil condition"

Js.4:8-10...Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom.
¹⁰ Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

Acts11:18 When they heard these things they kept silent; and they glorified God, saying, Then God has also **granted** to the Gentiles **repentance unto life**.

Ac.17:30 Truly, these times of ignorance God **overlooked**, but now **commands** all men everywhere to **repent**,

Notice this is a command not...under grace...

What is repentance?

Mt.12:41

The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment, and will condemn it because they **repented** at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

Jonah 3:10 When God saw their deeds, that they **turned from their wicked way**, then God relented concerning the calamity which He had declared He would bring upon them. And He did not do *it*.

2Tim.2:19 Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "**Everyone who confesses** the name of the Lord **must turn away** from wickedness."

Prov.28:13 He who **conceals** his sins **does not prosper**,

but whoever **confesses and renounces (forsakes)** them **finds mercy**.

Lk.13:5 Unless you **repent**, you will **all** likewise **perish**.

2Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, **not willing that any should perish** but that **all should come to repentance**.

2Cor.7:10-11

10 For the **sorrow** that is **according to the will** of God **produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation**, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

11 For behold what **earnestness** this very thing, this **godly sorrow, has produced in** you: what **vindication of yourselves**, what **indignation**, what **fear**, what **longing**, what **zeal**, what **avenging of wrong!** In everything you **demonstrated** yourselves to be **innocent** in the matter.

2Cor.7:10 Paul identifies two kinds of sorrow here:

1. **The sorrow that is according to the will of God that produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation**, changes the life and cleanses it from sin

There is a genuine sorrow for sin that leads to repentance, a change of heart that causes us to turn from sin to God.

This type of repentance leads to salvation.

For Paul, repentance and faith in Christ are human responsibilities in salvation.

2. Sorrow of the world that produces death

In contrast, this is unrepentant sorrow or pain over lost goods, lost friends, lack of pleasure and partial reaping of what has been sowed.

The unrepentant often become sorrowful only for the consequences of their sin.

Such sorrow results in eternal death and judgment.

2Cor.7:11

Godly sorrow produces:

1. what **earnestness** -Working of carefulness and obedience
2. what **vindication of yourselves** -Clearing of selves from guilt
3. what **indignation** -Indignation and hatred of sin
4. what **fear** -Fear of God and of the result of sin
5. what **longing** -Desire to make things right
6. what **zeal** -Zeal to do the right thing
7. what **avenging of wrong** -Revenge in punishing the guilty

Godly sorrow radically changes your entire life!

2Tim.2:22-26 But flee youthful lusts; and **pursue righteousness**, faith, love, peace **with those** who call on the Lord **out of a pure heart.**

23 But avoid foolish and unlearned questionings, knowing that they generate strife.

24 Besides, a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,

25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will

grant them repentance unto a *full* true knowledge of the truth,

26 and **that** they may **come to their senses** and **escape the snare of the devil**, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

- who call on the Lord out of a **pure** heart
- **grant** them repentance **unto** a *full* true knowledge of the truth
- **come to their senses** and **escape** the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will

Luke 24:45-47

45 Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,

46 and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day,

47 and that **repentance for forgiveness of sins** would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

Acts 3:19-20 "Therefore **repent and return, so that** your sins may be wiped away, **in order that** times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord;
20 and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you,

JN7:53-8:12

10 Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

11 "No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and **leave your life of sin.**"

12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. **Whoever follows** me will **never walk** in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Acts 26:20 but declared first to those at Damascus, then at Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should **repent and turn** to God, and **do works proving** their repentance.

Mat.3:8-10 Therefore **bear fruit in keeping with repentance...**¹⁰ The axe is already laid at the root of the trees; therefore **every tree** that **does not bear good fruit** is **cut down and thrown into the fire.**

Isa.30:15 For thus the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, has said, "In **repentance (Lit returning)** and rest you will be saved, In quietness and trust is your strength."
But you were not willing,

Isa.55:6-7

6 Seek the Lord while He may be found;
Call upon Him while He is near.

7 Let the **wicked forsake** his way
And the **unrighteous man his thoughts**;
And let him return to the Lord,
And He will have compassion on him,
And to our God,
For He will abundantly pardon.

Jer.5:3 O LORD, do not Your eyes **look for truth**? You **have smitten** them, **But they did not** weaken; You **have consumed** them, **But they refused** to take correction. **They have made** their faces **harder than rock**; They have **refused to repent**.

Temptation and Endurance

Main passages: James 1:12-16; Rev. 2:10-11

In our classes on the new birth we have covered that when a person becomes a Christian, a new creation in Christ, the flesh, the old self is crucified, the body of sin is destroyed, the body of the flesh has been surgically removed **Gal.5:24; Rom.6:5-8; Col.2:11**

In light of these Scriptural truths, the issue a genuine Christian who has been set free from sin faces every day, is temptation and whether we give in to it or endure it! And this has all to do with whether we make heaven or not!

I want you to understand something here, repentance is not a "daily lifestyle"

Where one commits some sin and asks forgiveness...back and forth...this is a double minded man...

If you are living this type of life you have not truly repented!

We say again, all Christians are in a lifelong battle against sin not with sin...**Heb.12:4**

In regard to temptation, will focus on two passages:

James 1:12-16 & Rev. 2:10-11

¹⁰ Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will **be tested (tempted)**, and you will have tribulation for ten days. **Be faithful until death**, and I will give you the **crown of life**. ¹¹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who **overcomes will not be hurt** by the second death.'

James 1:12-16 - Seven Steps in Temptation

v.14 But each one is **tempted** when he is **carried away** and **enticed** by his own **lust**.

1. Tempted: thought of evil ([v. 14](#))
2. Drawn away: strong imagination ([v. 14](#))
3. Lust: delight in viewing it ([v. 14](#))
4. Enticed: weakening of the will ([v. 14](#))

v.15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

5. Lust conceived: yielding ([v. 15](#))
6. Sin: sinful act committed ([v. 15](#))
7. Death: result of actual sin ([v. 15](#))

We see this same process in the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve

Gen.2:16-17 The Lord God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; ¹⁷ but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil **you shall not eat**, for **in the day that you eat from it** you will surely die."

Gen.3:1-6 Now the serpent **was more crafty** than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, **has God said**, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"

² The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat;

³ but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it **or touch it**, or you will die.'"

⁴ The serpent said to the woman, "**You surely will not die!** ⁵ For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will **be like God**, knowing good and evil." (**Tempted: thought of evil**)

⁶ When the woman **saw** that the tree was good for food, and that it **was a delight to the eyes (Drawn away: strong imagination)**, and that the tree was **desirable (Lust: delight in viewing it; Enticed: weakening of the will)** to make *one* wise, she **took from its fruit (Lust conceived)** and **ate (Sin / Death)**; and she gave

also to her husband with her, and he ate.

2Cor.11:3 But I am afraid that, as the **serpent** deceived Eve by his craftiness, **your minds** will be **led astray** from the simplicity and purity *of devotion* to Christ.

Thoughts...why did God bring the flood of Noah's time?

Gen.6:5-8 Then the Lord saw that the **wickedness of man was great** on the earth, and that **every intent of the thoughts of his heart** was **only evil continually**.

⁶The Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. ⁷The Lord said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them." ⁸But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

The battlefield is the mind folks!

If satan can get you in your thoughts you're finished!

Rom.1:21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became **futile in their thinking**, and their **foolish hearts were darkened**.

2Cor.2:11 so that **no advantage would be taken** of us by Satan, for we **are not ignorant of his schemes (thoughts)**.

Schemes, wiles, thoughts: methods – the different means, plans, and schemes used to deceive, entrap, enslave and ruin the souls of people.

A persons method of sinning is the devils method of

damning their soul.

I want you to hear this...Satan doesn't know what you're thinking...but he can plant a thought...

Paul has the anecdote...**2Cor.10:4-5**

While sin exists as satanic solicitation, it is Satan's sin and lust, not ours. If we yield, we make the Devil's sin our own.

Rom.6:11-12 Likewise you also, **reckon yourselves** to be **dead indeed** to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should **obey it in its lusts**.

5 things we know about sin:

1 Sin has lusts: **v.12 therefore do not let sin...**

2 Sin has desire: **Gen.4:7...sin** is crouching at the **door**; and **its desire** is for you, but you **must master** it."

3 Sin can be a master and is a "someone": **Rom.6:14-16**

4 Sin is deceitful: **Heb.3:12-14**

5 Sin is a spirit: **EPH.2:1-2**

¹ And you *He made alive*, who **were** dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which **you once walked according to** the course of this world, **according to** the **prince of the power of the air**, the **spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience**, ³ among whom also we all **once conducted** ourselves **in the lusts** of our **flesh**, **fulfilling the desires** of the **flesh** and of the mind, and

were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

One would better trifle with chain lightning than with sin. In view of the coming judgment, when the hearts of men will be weighed in the balances of divine justice, when sin will be sized up in its awful blackness and heinousness, let us see to it that none of the accursed thing be found upon our souls.

Sin and salvation are incompatible. They will not mix any more than oil and water.

Saints cannot be sinners at the same time. One cannot live in the kingdom of God and the kingdom of the world simultaneously!...**Ps.4:4**

The one tempted should obey....

Js.4:7

1Pet.5:8-9

8 Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

9But resist him, firm in *your* faith

Eph.4:27 and do not give the devil an opportunity (or a place)

Listen to me, when we refuse, regardless of how strong the temptation is, no sin is possible!

Eph.6:11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

And God always provides a way of escape – **1Cor.10:12-14**

1 Peter 2:11 Dear friends, I **urge** you, as foreigners and exiles, to **abstain from sinful desires**, which **wage war against** your soul.

How did Jesus defeat the devil in the wilderness temptation?

Jesus did not quote phsyco sybernetics in the wilderness. He did not quote positive thinking. Listen to me, you can think positive thoughts and go straight to hell.

Matt.10:4 "It is written, 'Man shall not live on bread alone...'"

v.7 "It is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

v.10 Get behind Me Satan!, for **it is written**, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.'"

The Lord knows how to deliver the godly - **2PET.2:9**

Who is the aid of escape? Heb.2:18...Call on Jesus...

God delivers from sin at the new birth **2Cor.5:17** / **1Jn.3:8**, so if you become subject to it again, it is because of your choice.

So, present yourselves to God....Yield to God your will. Satan cannot force your will, and God will not, so the safe and normal thing is to will to do God's will... **Phil 2:12** So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling;....**Phil 2:13**

(Rom 6:14) For **sin will not have dominion** over you. For you are **not under law**, but **under grace**.

You are not under the law that DEMANDS obedience,

without giving power to obey. You are under grace that demands the same strict obedience to God, but gives free pardon for sin and the power to obey....**Titus 2:11-14**

Furthermore, grace is every bit as much against sin if not more so than the law!

Remember, the Apostle Paul, by the Holy Spirit, is writing to the Roman saints. (**Romans 1:7**)

You present your members to one or the other sin or righteousness and get the result of such presentation.....(**Rom 6:15-16**)

Sin pays the wages of death, obedience rewards righteousness!

Millions today have not learned these simple facts - that you cannot be a servant of sin and righteousness, or of self and God, or of Satan and God at the same time.....Jesus said **Mt.6:22-24**

So we have the Word of God, the enabling grace of God that gives...and the Lord Jesus Christ, and that's enough to get the victory every time!

If you commit sin you are a servant of Satan and not a Christian **Jn.8:31 / 1Jn.3:8**

If you sin Satan is your master and not Christ. Sin is the service of Satan and righteousness is the service of God.

LK.22:40 When He arrived at the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may **not enter into temptation.**"

Rev.3:10 Because you have **kept** the word of My

perseverance (or steadfastness), I also will **keep** you from the hour of **testing (temptation)** that *hour* which is about to come upon the whole world, to **test (tempt)** those who dwell on the earth.

The Christian life is not a "sit back in the easy chair and enjoy your salvation!

No it's a "roll up your sleeves and get with it kind of faith!
It's a race to be run and you **MUST** cross the finish line in order to make heaven!

Endurance

So, how important is our endurance?

LK.21:19 By your endurance you will **gain** your lives (Lit. **souls**).

We must engage in the most intense devotion to Christ through the means of endurance, grace, study of the Word, prayer, worship, witness, Christian fellowship and daily resistance to sin.

By persevering in true faith, believers gain eternal life and are victorious in all circumstances.

The "once saved always saved" crowd actually believe and teach that all Christians automatically endure to the end and are saved!

There is not one sentence in the Scriptures that even remotely implies this!

MATT10:22 "You will be hated by all because of My name, but **it is the one who has endured to the end who **will be saved**.**

This statement is Jesus speaking to His disciples that He

appointed as Apostles, which is the highest order of the church! **Ch.10 v.1-2**

The very fact that Jesus said to His disciples which He appointed as Apostles... but **it is the one who has endured to the end, who will be saved**, flies in the face of the teaching that Christians automatically endure to the end!

These false teachers are heretics and are to be rejected and avoided! **Titus 3:10; Rom.16:17-18**

Now I urge you brethren, to keep your eye on those...

And people say, "Well, doctrine is not important, we should just all unit because we call ourselves Christians".

That statement is a doctrine!

1TIM.4:16 Doctrine is of eternal importance!

We are not to listen to any of their teachings, read any of their books or give into their ministries!

3 things to endure which come from Christ's parable of the seed and the sower – our second class

Temptation, tribulation, persecution

LK.8:13 Those on the rocky *soil* are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no *firm* root; they believe for a while, and in time of **temptation** fall away.

MATT.13:20-21 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy,²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when **tribulation** or **persecution** arises on account of the word,

immediately he falls away.

HEB.12:4 You have not yet **resisted to the point of shedding blood** in your **striving against sin**;

Same root word in **Luke 13:24** "Be striving"

Endeavor with strenuous zeal – strain your last nerve

The word is kin to the "**agony**" of the garden **Lk. 22:44**, and certainly teaches that one must put forth more personal effort than merely "taking it by faith" or casually "accepting" Christ.

Lk.22:43,44

43 Now an **angel** from heaven appeared to Him, **strengthening** Him.

44 And **being in agony** He was praying very **fervently**; and His sweat became like **drops of blood**, falling down upon the ground.

Both Adam & Jesus, as Sons of God, were tested as to their Love of their Father in a Garden.

Adam was tested in the Garden of Eden. Eden = paradise (no pressure)

Jesus was tested in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Gethsemane = oil press (severe pressure)

The test was exactly the same: "**Do as God says.**"

The temptation was exactly the same: "**Do as you choose.**"

The circumstances were exactly the same: "**The Devil in the Garden spoke to both.**"

Being in agony.....Jesus was tempted in the Garden.....The word for agony means "a struggle, a

conflict.”

It comes from another Greek word which means “A place of assembly,” especially the place in which Greeks assemble to celebrate solemn games; a place of contest and struggle of exertion to the utmost to overcome all opposition in attaining the goal.

Hence, it is used of Christians in their fight to spread the gospel among their enemies and to live victorious over the world, the flesh and the devil to the end.:

2 Tim 4:7 I have **fought** the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;

This proves Christ was in a life and death struggle in the garden by way of the fact that He was tempted by Satan not to go to the cross and Satan tried to kill Him, and that He was not going through experiences of ordinary prayer.

In Matthew’s gospel verse 39, when Jesus said, “...if it is possible, let **this cup pass from Me; **yet not as I will**, but as You will,”**

The idea here is that the devil tempted Christ not to go to the cross and he tried to kill Him, but God sent an angel to strengthen Him and He heard His prayer and saved Him from death:

Luke 22:43 Now an **angel** from heaven appeared to Him, **strengthening** Him.

Heb 5:7 In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications **with loud crying and tears** to the One able to **save Him from death**, and **He was heard** because of His piety.

Let's talk a little more about thoughts... me say this,
"Every thought you have is not your thought!

Satan doesn't know what you are thinking!

He is not all knowing!

But he can plant a thought in your mind

Do not let the devil play with your mind!

You must "arrest" the thought in your mind! (**2Cor.10:4-5**)

However, if you entertain those evil thoughts, there are even some sins that occur in the mind that bring spiritual death before any act is actually committed.

Two examples:

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery'; ²⁸ but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell." **Matthew 5:27-29**

"Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding (remaining) in him." **1 John 3:15**

God hates sin with every part of His moral being!

Ps.5:5 The boastful shall not stand in Your sight;
You **hate all workers of iniquity.**

Ps.11:5 The Lord tests the righteous,
But the **wicked** and the one who loves violence **His soul hates.**

Joel Osteen says, "O' God isn't mad at you"!

The Bible says, if you're wicked He is!

Ps.7:11 God *is* a just judge, And God is angry *with the wicked* every day.

Jesus told His disciples, "When He arrived at the place, He said to them, "**Pray** that **you** may **not enter** into temptation." **Luke 22:40**

So, pray...

Submit yourself...!

Fight the good...

Endure temptation and win the crown of life!

How do we receive endurance?

Rom.15:4-5 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that **through endurance and through the encouragement** of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the **God of endurance** and encouragement **grant you** to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus

This is part a prayer of the Apostle Paul in Col.1:

Col.1:11 being **strengthened with all** power, **according to** his **glorious might, for all endurance** and patience with joy;

God will strengthen you!

He will send an angel if He has to just like He sent an Angel to strengthen Jesus when He was tempted in the Garden of Gethsemane!

Again...Heb.2:18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

He is able to deliver you!

He is able to rescue you!

He is able to defeat the enemy on your behalf!

He is able to do exceedingly above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the **power** that works in us!

And power belongs to God!

Ps 62:11 Once God has spoken; Twice I have heard this: That **power belongs to God!**

He is able to come to the aid of all those who are tempted!

Turn to Jesus, HE IS ABLE!

HEB.10:36-39

36 For you have **need of endurance, so that** when you have **done** the will of God, you **may receive** what was **promised [Lit *the promise*]** .

37 FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE,
HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY.

38 BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH;
AND **IF HE SHRINKS BACK**, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.

39 But we are not of those who **shrink back to destruction**, but of those who **have faith to the preserving [Or *possessing*]** of the soul.

For you have NEED of endurance...

What is the promise? **1Jn.2:24-26**

HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY

1Cor.2:9 "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

He is our...

He could step...

BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH or the one who is righteous by faith shall live

AND **IF HE SHRINKS BACK**, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM. But we are not of those who **shrink back to destruction**, but of those who **have faith to the preserving [Or *possessing*]** of the soul.

HEB4:11 Let us, therefore, **make every effort** to enter that rest, so that no one will **perish by following** their example of disobedience.

REV.14:12

12 Here **is the perseverance of the saints**; here are **those who keep** the commandments of God **and the faith** of Jesus.