

The Unforgivable Sin

Part 2 – 1 John 5:16; 2 Peter 2

Introduction:

- A. What does the Bible teach about the will of a person?
1. Unbelievers have an e_____ will to sin.
 - a. The unbeliever has a degree of freedom in choosing how to sin, but they are s_____ to sin (Rom 6:17)
 - b. The biblical definition of sin is falling short of God's g_____ (Rom 3:23)
 - 1) 1Cor 10:31 commands that whatever we do, we are do to the g_____ of God.
 - 2) Falling short of God's glory is failing to give Him glory in what we do, say, or think.
 - 3) Unbeliever cannot glorify God since they are not in a trust relationship with Him.
 2. Believers in Christ are e_____ to God (Rom 6:22,23)
 - a. Believers are a new c_____ (2Cor 5:17)
 - b. God puts in every believer the d_____ to please Him and the ability to do so (Phil 2:12,13)
 - c. Believers still can choose to sin until Jesus r_____ but they will always have eternal life (Rom 6:23)
- B. The main objection to the teaching that there is no free will is that it will make us like r_____.
1. In the New Heaven and New Earth, no one will have the freedom to s_____.
 2. In the New Heaven and New Earth, we will not be robots.
- C. There are passages that seem to challenge eternal security
1. Last message we dealt with Hebrews 6
 2. Today's message will deal with two other passages

I Jn 5:16 - The sin unto death

- A. Three main interpretations of what is the sin unto death:
- 1) It is a c_____ crime that incurs the death penalty
 - 2) It is a point where a Christian is in danger of losing their salvation, but God takes their life to p_____ it.
 - 3) It is the unforgivable sin, defining death as s_____ death and life as spiritual life.
- B. Understanding the k_____ of sinful actions in 1John
1. There is the l_____ of sin
 - a. 1Jn 3:6, 8, 9 uses the p_____ tense in the Greek text which refers to habitual or ongoing action

- 1) The KJV wrongly translates it, leading the reader to believe that Christians are p_____
- 2) Many translations reflect habitual action.
- b. The following reflects the meaning of the Greek text: No one who abides in Him, habitually sins. The one who practices sin is of the devil. No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot habitually sin, because he is born of God.
2. There is an i_____ of sin
 - a. 1Jn 2:1 uses the aorist tense in the Greek text which refers to an instance.
 - b. 1Jn 2:1,2 assures believers that if they commit a sin, Jesus's death p_____ for it.
 - c. The following reflects the meaning of the Greek text: *My little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not commit a sin. And if anyone does commit a sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins.*
- C. Understanding the term brother in 1John
 - a. John is dealing with what people c_____ (e.g. 1Jn 1:6)
 - b. 1Jn 2:9 calls the believer the brother of this one who falsely claims to be part of God's f_____.
- D. The case of 1Jn 5:16
 1. A b_____ is discovered to be in a lifestyle of sin
 - a. According to 1Jn 3:6,8,9, this person cannot be a t_____ brother.
 - b. A lifestyle of sin
 - 1) Is not determined by the n_____ of times a certain sin is committed.
 - 2) It is determined by failure to c_____ about overcoming such sin (nonrepentance).
 2. The true believer is commanded to do two things if the sin is not one that is unto death (not the unforgivable sin)
 - a. P_____
 - 1) Only the Holy Spirit can c_____ a person to the point of repenting from sin and believing in Christ (Jn 16:8,9)
 - 2) Praying is asking God to save this so-called brother.

- b. G_____ him life
 - 1) Most versions insert the word, God, even though it is not in the Greek text (see NAS which has it in italics).
 - 2) Believers give unbelievers life by giving them the g_____ (Rom 1:16)
- c. Wester's paraphrase - *If anyone happens to see someone who claims to be a fellow believer in a lifestyle of a specific sin that can be forgiven, you must pray for his eternal life and give him the gospel of life.*
3. The true believer is commanded what not to do if the sin leads to death – Don't p_____ because the sin is unforgivable.

2Peter 2:20,21 – the worst state

- A. The conditions that must be met
 1. They have to have escaped the defilements of the world by the k_____ of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
 - a. Who are they? – verse 1 tells us that they are f_____ prophets or false teachers.
 - b. They had a kind of repentance because of the knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
 - 1) The Greek word translated as knowledge refers to a personal r_____
 - 2) They truly believed that Jesus was the Christ who died for sins, and they repented and professed to have a personal relationship with Christ (but it was a profession not a reality)
 2. They are again entangled in them and are overcome.
 - a. This is a return to the old l_____ they had escaped.
 - b. They resign themselves to it (are overcome)
 3. They teach l_____, even though they know the truth.
 - a. Verse 1 – they d_____ the Master who bought them (Peter is recording what they claimed)
 - b. Verses 2,3 – they teach lies for physical pleasures and for monetary g_____.
 - c. Verse 18 – they teach lies to gain p_____ over others.
- B. The worst state – this state is worse than never h_____ the gospel message.
- C. Historical examples of people committing this sin
 1. Jim J_____
 2. Joseph S_____
 3. Charles Taze R_____
 4. Reverend M_____