# 1 John Lesson 28

**1 John 5:17-18**

“There is a Sin unto Death”

Introduction: In the last few messages, we have been given assurance of two things (1) that we have eternal life – the assurance of the believer v.13 - because I have Jesus, not because I am a Baptist or a member of any church (2) effectual prayer v.14 confidence and boldness according to His will.

Speaking of eternal life in verse 15, we move into verse 16 and John said...

In relation to observing a fellow-believer overtaken in a sin and speaking of praying in God’s will, it is God’s will that the erring one be restored into fellowship with God. So, we have every right to pray in His will that that individual be recovered from the error of his way.

It is God’s will that the backslider be returned....that the fallen be raised up....that the wanderer that has gone astray come back into fellowship.

So, God leads us into the subject of sin in the life of a believer.

What is my responsibility when I know that my brother or sister in Christ is in sin? What may I learn from this when I have sin in my own life?

**I. Believers DO Sin.**

A. If we say we have no sin, we make Him a liar.

1. God tells us how to deal with our sin.

a. Don’t try to cover or hide that sin.

b. Don’t try to blame that sin on someone else.

c. Agree with God, when He says it is sin.

d. Repent and ask forgiveness of that sin, and He will.

2. You may be here and may be indulging in a sin that may or may not be known to anyone else.

a. You can come face to face with the reality that God is mindful of that sin.

b. God has made provision for that sin.

c. You can go to the Father through the advocate Jesus Christ and agree with Him that it is sin.

d. You can confess it to Him and by His grace, He will forgive you of that sin.

e. We must deal with the guilt of sin if you are a child of God.

B. A true believer will not persist in the attitude of continual sin without interruption of God. (3:6-10)

1. The Bible says His seed remains in us.

a. We have the divine nature; we are now His.

b. The Holy Spirit dwells within us.

d. We belong to Him; we are His children.

e. Of His own will He begat us.

2. The Father will not put up with us developing the mentality that we will do what we want to do unrestraint.

a. No Bible will tell me what to do.

b. No Pastor will tell me what to do.

C. No Parent will tell me what to do.

**II. If a Believer see His brother Sin.**

A. All unrighteousness is Sin.

1. Everything contrary to truth, contrary to righteousness.

2. All things that were sin in John’s day, are sin now!

a. We are hearing a message across the world that we live in a new time and age.

b. We must come back to the place where we understand that this truth transcends every age, culture and race.

3. Sin is the transgression of the law.

a. Any time we step over the line of the law.

b. Any time the law says to stop and we ignore.

c. Whether it be our speech, our conduct, our morals, our business, our finances, or conduct.

d. Wherever God draws a line and we step over it, that transgression is sin.

B. We might from time to time, see a brother sin.

1. Even in the best conditions of church life.

a. Not just possible, it is likely.

b. One who errs from the way of truth.

c. One who drifts astray and wonders away.

2. That sin may not be unto death.

a. He may sin and live.

b. Verse 16 says there is a sin unto death.

c. It is possible for a saved person to commit sin and persist in it so that they die.

3. We may not know if it unto death or not, but that does mean we are to spend our time trying to figure that out.

a. We are to pray for the brother.

b. If he is still alive, then it is not a sin unto death yet.

c. Don’t look for an out of praying for a brother.

4. When we see one is in sin, then our responsibility is to take that person before the throne of God pray for them.

a. Ask God to restore them.

b. Ask God to bring him back into fellowship.

c. Ask God to work conviction in their heart.

5. Don’t make it an occasion to gossip.

a. More confusion is wrought by people who do not obey this simple commandment.

b. More damage is done, more hurt is caused.

6. The clear teachings of scripture tell us to go the Father and ask in such a way that He will hear and give life to one who has not sinned unto death.

a. To talk to everybody else but God about it, is to violate the teachings of scripture.

b. Ask that God will spare their life and not kill that person.

1) God is a forgiving and restoring God.

2) God has been known to renew one’s fellowship and set them on the right way.

7. Look at Peter’s life.

a. Peter looked around and said, “though others may fail thee I will not”

b. Jesus told Peter “Satan hath desired to have thee, but I have prayed for thee that thy faith fail not.”

c. Peter denied him three times

d. Jesus picked Peter up and restored Him and used his life in a mighty way.

8. When we see a brother or sister in sin, then our attitude should be, “I am going to talk to the Father about this.”

a. We do not need more details to talk to the Father.

b. That there is error is all we need to know.

c. It is wicked to be looking for hidden information.

d. If you do not first want to get on your knees and talk to the Father about it, you have a spiritual problem.

9. More will be accomplished by our prayer than our suspicion.

a. God says, “talk to me about it, and he repents, then I’ll give him his life.

b. Duet 21 deals with how to deal with a rebellious child.

1) These parents have tried to lead, discipline and admonish a child to obey.

2) Parents who do not put restraints on their children are the ones in trouble.

3) The Bible says that the elders of that city would take the child outside of the city and stone him until dead

4) God’s primary concern that His people as a nation live in such a way to glorify Him.

5) Rebellion cannot be tolerated.

Conclusion: Nadab and Abihu / Korah + / Uzzah / Ananias & Saphira

All things not right are sin...and God says, “My children do not do this”

You may not be immoral but if you sit in church and say no to God, recognize that there are real consequences.