

Simply Christ

Gospel Newsletter

Sharing the simplicity that is in Christ

February 12, 2022

The End of Sin

The six things the angel Gabriel said would be accomplished with the coming of the Messiah the Prince were (1) *“...finish the transgression, (2) make an end of sins, (3) make reconciliation for iniquity, (4) bring in everlasting righteousness, (5) seal up the vision and prophecy, and (6) anoint the most Holy.”* Daniel 9:24. These six things give us the clearest understanding of the purpose of Christ’s first appearing ever recorded in the scripture. Perhaps the least accepted of these by most Christian’s is (2) ***“to make an end of sins.”***

This one prophetic statement has the ability to “choke” ministers from every spectrum of Christianity regardless of their background, denomination, or theological persuasion. Both the very lascivious minister who convinces people that no amount of sin can separate a believer from Christ, and the strict legalistic preacher who believes the wrong haircut will send you to hell, seem unified against this basic truth of the gospel. Both refuse to believe that Jesus Christ went to the cross to make an end of sin in you!

All the apostles were in unison on this truth as they penned the New Testament epistles. No one is more straightforward than the Apostle John who wrote, *“And ye know that he was manifested*

to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him." I John 3:5-6. Not only does John remind us that "*taking away sin*" is the purpose for which Christ came, but he also concludes that since this is the case, those who sin have not seen Christ and do not know him. That is pretty strong stuff!

The Apostle Peter assures us by the promises of the gospel, that we are made "*partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*" II Peter 1:3-4. Those who know Christ have received his divine nature, but first they are delivered from the "*corruption*" which works through "*lusts*" in the heart of those who know not God. Peter also reminds us that Christ "*...bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness...*" I Peter 2:24. Here, Peter joins with John declaring the purpose of Jesus' crucifixion to be that Christ died so that in union "*with Christ*" we would be dead to sin and live unto righteousness. Our death in union with Christ is what makes us free from sin!

No Apostle speaks more of this great deliverance than the Apostle Paul. While it seems the entire church world scoffs, asking how is it possible for a believer to stop sinning, the Apostle Paul asks the opposite question. He wanted the gainsayers to tell him how it is possible that anyone who is "*dead to sin*" can continue to sin. He asked, "*How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*" Romans 6:2. Although many teachers proclaim "*grace*" to be the reason sin does not

matter to God, Paul is adamant that “*grace*” is the reason sin has no place or authority in the heart or life of a child of God. He says, “*For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.*” Romans 6:14.

The book of Hebrews, which I believe Paul wrote, is filled with the message that Christ was manifested to deliver us from sin. It records, Christ “*...appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.*” Hebrews 9:26. It also says the blood of Christ will “*...purge your conscience (your innermost thoughts and feelings) from dead works to serve the living God*” Hebrews 9:14, and sprinkle your heart “*from an evil conscience.*” Hebrews 10:22. This Apostle tells us in no uncertain terms, “*Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.*” Hebrews 13:12. Jesus shed his blood to make you holy!

Perhaps the most defining passage in all the Bible which tells us how Christ made “*an end of sin*” in those that believe, is found in Paul’s letter to the Romans. He says, “*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 6:6-7. Paul is clear. The reason Christ was crucified is so we would also be crucified in union with him. This death with Christ destroys “*the body of sin.*” The word “*body*” speaks of “*the whole*” and not just a “*partial*” deliverance. This destruction of “*the body of sin*” delivers us from both the power and presence of sin in our life. This is how Christ makes “*an end of sin*” in all that believe.

The gospel is only *“the power of God unto salvation **to everyone that believes”** it.* Romans 1:16. It does nothing for those who will not believe it. If you spend your life denying that Christ came to make an end of sin in you, your experience will be one of struggle and failure. On the other hand, you can believe the overwhelming testimony of God’s word, which is *“the truth,”* and be made free!