

Christians Sin - cont.

kept from doing in the past. There are Christians who have been promised “liberty” by the world and they go into sin (2 Peter 2:18-19). But, there is good reason why Christians have not been allowed to venture into sin and they need to ignore the temptation to “experiment” with it (Proverbs 6:27-28).

Misplaced Love

A good Christian may start loving the wrong things and thereby sin. Like the Ephesians, it is possible for good affections and one’s “first love” to be left behind (Revelation 2:4; 1 King 11:1-2). Love for Christ is replaced by some misplaced love. The good news is that a Christian can repent and return to their first love for Christ (Revelation 2:5).

When a “good” Christian sins, he or she is no longer good! Let us remember that the devil does not want a sinner to become a saint (Christian) and he does not want a saint to remain sanctified (without sin)! He is always looking to get a “good” Christian to sin. Don’t let him.

- Chris Reeves -

- Thought of the Week -

Last week I was thinking a lot about thankfulness. But what will I be thinking about this week? What character quality like thankfulness will be on my mind this week? Will it be something like joy, kindness, godliness, service, or patience? I will pick a character quality and focus on it this week just like I did with thankfulness last week. I will have a “_____ Day” this week.

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Why Do Good Christians Sin?

The Bible is very clear that all people sin. Solomon said, “there is no man that sins not” (1 King 8:46). Paul wrote, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). And John wrote, “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us ... If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us” (1 John 1:8, 10).

There are many reasons why people in general sin. But, the particular question I want to explore in this article is this: Why do “good” Christians sin? Why do Christians sin who hold leadership roles like preachers, elders, deacons, or Bible class teachers? Why do Christians sin who attend every service, read their Bible, and pray regularly? Let us take a look at why such Christians sin.

Unknowing

A good Christian may sin because he or she is unknowledgeable of what is being done. They may do something out of ignorance. Like Simon the new Christian, good intentions may be misled and cause a person to sin (Acts 8:18-19). But, we need to

remember that all Christians can and must know what God’s will is (Ephesians 5:17).

Influenced

A good Christian may be influenced by his or her evil companionships. Like the Corinthian Christians, the good morals of a Christian can be corrupted (1 Corinthians 15:33). But, peer pressure can and must be resisted (Psalm 1:1; Proverbs 1:10; 13:20).

Misled

A good Christian may listen to erroneous doctrines and follow after them. Sometimes a Christian allows truthful teaching to be replaced with error (2 Corinthians 11:3-4; 2 Peter 2:1ff; James 5:19-20). It is important, then, for false teaching to be identified and rejected (Romans 16:17-18; 2 John 9-11).

Unintended

A good Christian may not sin deliberately, but he or she may sin unintentionally because one is not being watchful. Sometimes Christians are “overtaken in a fault (trespass)” (Galatians 6:1). Therefore, one must be vigilant at all times for

the devil and resist him (1 Peter 5:8; James 4:7-10).

Hypocritical

A good Christian may appear righteous on the outside, but have a sinful private life. He or she may act hypocritically. Like the Pharisees, a Christian can have good habits and bad habits at the same time (Matthew 23:1ff; Galatians 2:11-14). But, we must remember that God sees all and at all times, so let us avoid being hypocritical (Proverbs 15:3).

Grow Weary

A good Christian may grow weary of faithfulness and get tired and sin. A Christian can start with a good foundation and then allow it to erode away. He or she just slowly “drifts away” from Christ (Hebrews 2:1-3). This is why it is so important for a Christian to press onward in service to Christ (Hebrews 12:1-3).

Curious

A good Christian may sin because he or she wants to try something new or something they have been