

## 1Jhn 03 - Disciples Recognize Sin - 1Jn 1:8-2:2

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In 1Jn we are talking about the marks of True Discipleship. & remember - we said in the beginning that 1John doesn't always follow a logical train of thought. but instead John addresses the marks of a True Disciple Repeatedly, & sometimes, not in real systematic order.

But so far - He has actually been pretty logical. We started with

**Disciples Have Fellowship** (the basis of our fellowship is WHO Jesus Christ IS), Then our 2<sup>nd</sup> Msg was

**Disciples Walk in the Light** (if we are Disciples, we will walk in the Light), & now - **Disciples Recognize Sin** (which is one of the first Proofs, that we are walking in the Light)

Today - we deal with the issue of SIN - BOTH the SIN that keeps us from Salvation, AND the SINS we stumble in - even as True Disciples

We're coming out of that absolute statement of truth from our last msg in Ch 1:5 - -

**GOD IS LIGHT**, & then - in V.7 John said; a Disciple "*Walks in the Light, as He is in the Light*". & now John is going to show us how it's even possible - that we *can* "*Walk in the Light*"

& do you remember our "*If - But If*" claims from our last msg ? There are Three of them in this section. We reviewed all 3 last msg, but we only dealt specifically with one. So today we'll look closely at the other two.

**We'll start in - 1Jn 1:8 - ESV**

***8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.***

This is a response to those who were saying - they "*had no sin.*" Or at least, that their sinful actions didn't matter. There was one false teaching that said; ***Our actions are Spiritually Irrelevant*** so we can do what we want & be '*Spiritually*' without sin. In other words (*like many people today*), they claimed their actions had ZERO consequences with God. They claimed they could be RIGHT with God, while still living in sin (*imagine that*).

The other false teaching was; that by a kind of "*legalistic hair-splitting*" we can actually consider ourselves "sinless." In our text today - John deals with both of these false views. & he begins - in V.8 - by saying ***If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.***

There is a distinction in the beginning of these Two Parallel Statements that's worth noticing; Look at the difference in how V.8 & V.10 start -

V.8 - *If we say we have no sin*

V.10 - *If we say we have not sinned*

it's possible - that John is dealing with both; our SIN NATURE (v.8 - *have no sin*) - & our SIN ACTIONS (v.10 - *have not sinned*). So - in V.8 - he begins with our SIN NATURE - ***If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.***

Now - I really shouldn't have to PROVE to anyone that they're a Sinner - or that they have a Sin Nature - *because our actions clearly reveal our Sin Nature*. But for me - the person that is really in the cross-hairs here is the person that says ***I'm a pretty good person, I think God will accept me.*** This person is (in essence) denying they have a Sin Nature - that separates them from God.

They think they can be GOOD ENUF for God - *on their own*

**Psa 14:3 - NLT**

***3 But no, all have turned away; all have become corrupt. No one does good, not a single one!***

**Isa 53:6 - NLT**

***All of us, like sheep, have strayed away.  
We have left God's paths to follow our own.***

**ALL** of us have **Turned Away**

**ALL** of us have **Become Corrupt**

**ALL** of us have **Left God's Path's**, to follow our own

**[VIDEO - PUT UP V.8]**

& **1Jn 1:8** says very clearly - if we say **OTHERWISE**  
we **deceive ourselves** - & the **truth is not in us**

**To deny** that our **Sin Nature** separates us from God

is to Live in **SELF-DECEPTION** - & *Man, can we deceive ourselves!*

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& **not only** are we **deceiving** ourselves

but **V.8** says - **the TRUTH** is not ***"In Us"***

Now - This can **easily be seen** as a reference to **Salvation**  
that the **TRUTH of Jesus Christ** - is not in us

The **AMP Bible** says ***"The Truth . . . does not dwell in our hearts"***

Remember - **1John** is all about **the MARKS** of a *True Disciple*

& John is **making it clear** - **acknowledging** our Sinful **Condition**  
is a **Clear** & Mandatory **MARK** - of a *Saved person*

**Do you See It ??**

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OK - Remember - **Vs.8-9** are an "**IF - BUT IF**" statement

**The "IF" is in V.8**

*If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.*

& then the "**BUT IF**" is in 1Jn 1:9 - **ESV**

**9** [but] *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Notice - **V. 9 DOES NOT** remove the **sin nature** (I wish)  
but it **DOES** remove **the Penalty** of our sinful actions

**Meaning** - the Penalty in our **Relationship with God** is removed

**To Forgive** - means to "**Release**", or to "**Let-Go**"

**To Cleanse** - means to "**Make Clean**" or "**Remove the Stain**"

& **THAT** is GOOD NEWS, isn't it?

That **if we will confess** our sins

not only will God **Release** us from the Penalty  
but He will also **Remove** the Stain

**THAT is the Good News of the Gospel**

if we **CONFESS** our sins - God is **FAITHFUL** & **JUST**  
to **FORGIVE** us - & to **CLEANSE** us  
from **ALL** unrighteousness

& honestly - Once we **accept** the fact that we're **SINNERS**  
& that our **Sin Separates us** from God

**is there ANY better news than THIS ? - - NO!**

This is **Good News** for the **Un-Saved** **AND** the **Saved**

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Now - 1Jn 1:9 - is written as a "Conditional Clause"  
**IF we confess our sins - He is faithful to forgive our sins**

& there are TWO areas of our lives where this Applies

### FIRST - Is POSITIONAL

Confession of our Sin is a Critical Acknowledgement  
for our SALVATION - for us to be Born Again

That's when we are made Positionally Right before God  
the moment of our Justification

That Confession of our sin  
& Receiving Jesus Christ as Savior & Lord

Cleanses us POSITIONALLY  
*making us right with God*

SECOND area confession is required  
is in our DAILY RELATIONSHIP with God

Meaning - if we will live openly & honestly before God  
confessing our sins as we stumble . . .  
then He is Faithful & Just to Forgive us & Cleanse us  
making our Daily Relationship with Him RIGHT

What this DOES NOT mean is - if a Christian FORGETS  
or DOESN'T have a chance - to Confess a sin before their death

this DOES NOT mean - they will not be saved !!  
That is absolutely NOT what John is teaching

But instead - For the Christian - this is the method  
of an on-going RIGHT relationship with God

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### So - (#1) If you've never been Born-Again

Realize you are a Sinner by nature & choice  
Confess your Sin to God - asking Him to forgive you  
Receive Jesus Christ as your Savior & Lord

& I promise you - God is faithful & Just to forgive your sin

& to cleanse you of all unrighteousness

**AND - (#2) If you are a Christian**

We **MUST** walk in honest **confession** of our sin before God  
**always** confessing our sins to Him

& I promise you - He is **Faithful** & **Just** to **forgive** us & **cleanse** us  
& to make us **RIGHT** in our on-going relationship w/ Him

& remember - **BOTH** - our **POSITIONAL** Forgiveness  
& our ongoing **RELATIONAL** Forgiveness - are made possible

**(V.7) by the blood of Jesus, which cleanses us from all sin.**

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Now - in **Ch 1:10** - John returns to the "**IF**" side  
of our "**IF - BUT IF**" statements (last one)

**1John 1:10 - ESV**

***10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.***

Again - **If** we say we **Have Not Sinned**, As In  
***"I think I'm a good enough person for God to accept me"***

**V.10** REALLY **puts us** in our place !!

If we have the **Audacity** to actually say this - - **V.10** says

We **MAKE GOD** a **LIAR**

& we clearly **prove** that **HIS WORD** is **not** in us

Let's make a **huge truth** - VERY SIMPLE

It is Very **BAD idea** - to call **GOD** - a **LIAR** (*very BAD*)

**That** is - in essence - **BLASPHEMY**

& **the consequences** of Blasphemy are **Eternal Judgment**  
& **Eternal Separation** from God

**God** has made the truth clear

***ALL have sinned, and fall short of the Glory of God (Rom 3:23)***

**If you say** otherwise - you are calling **God a Liar**

& you are **proving** that **His word** is not in you

& **altho** it's Not Capitalized - this is the **GK word** - **LOGOS**  
& **again** - it's easy to see the **implication**

that - if you **SAY** you **have not sinned**  
then **Jesus** (The **WORD**) is **NOT** in you

**Just as in V.8** - if you **SAY** you **have no sin**  
then **Jesus** (The **TRUTH**) is **NOT** in you

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Moving on to **Ch 2:1** - & our final **"BUT IF"** statement

It **seems clear** here in **Ch 2:1** - that John wants to **make certain**  
that he is not **misunderstood**

he wants to **make it clear**  
he is not **condoning**, or **approving** of, sin

& in **Ch 2:1** he really sets-out  
one of the **Primary Points** of the entire book of **1John**

He's made it clear - **WE ARE ALL Sinners**  
by **Nature** & by **Choice**

But **now** he needs to make it **clear**  
that **our COMMAND - is to NOT Sin**

I love the saying;  
**"Christians are NOT Sinless - but they SHOULD sin less"**

& that's **basically the point** John's going to make here

**1Jn 2:1 - ESV**

***1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.***

John says - **My little children** - please hear me - my point is  
We **should** absolutely **NOT** be sinning

***But IF we do sin - we have an advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ the righteous***

John starts this verse with **intimacy** to his flock

he says *"My little children"*

He says - *"I love you guys" - "I care for you guys"*

*"I'm writing these things to keep you  
from destroying your life with sin"*

That's the same thing we say to our own children, right?

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The POINT IS (the goal is), that we NOT sin

Altho He's not suggesting sinless perfection

He's talking about REPENTANCE

TURNING AWAY from our sin - & moving the other direction

Not saying we should be SINLESS  
but saying that we must SIN - LESS

*In others words* - John is exhorting us  
to consciously CHOOSE - to WALK in the LIGHT

Tho he recognizes - sin is an ever present enemy  
because we're still dragging around the "old nature"

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& so - for the THIRD time - John addresses  
the FORGIVENESS available to us THRU Jesus Christ

& he says in Ch 2:1(B) - *But if anyone does sin, we have  
an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*

Guys - A True Disciple will make a Conscious CHOICE  
to "Walk in the Light"

*But if we do sin, we have an advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ the righteous.*

In this context - the word ADVOCATE refers specifically  
to one who stands up in a court of law on your behalf

Which is exactly what Jesus Christ does for us  
in regard to our sin & God's required judgment

He **stands up** in God's courtroom *on our behalf*

& He **lets** His Father **know** - the **Penalty** for our sin  
has already been **PAID IN FULL** - *by Him*

Which is an **Incredible Picture**

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But there's *another* **Incredible picture** here

because this word **ADVOCATE** is the word  
**John** commonly uses - - for **the Holy Spirit**

**FOUR times** in the **Gospel** of John  
this same **GK word** is used to describe the **Holy Spirit**

*as One called alongside to Help us*

& in **John 14:16** Jesus refers to **the Holy Spirit**  
as "**ANOTHER HELPER** (Or **ADVOCATE**)" same word as here

So - the Holy Spirit is **ANOTHER Advocate**  
& **here we read** - that Jesus is our **FIRST Advocate**

& So we have **TWO Advocates** *WITH* the Father  
Jesus Christ our **First Advocate**, &  
The Holy Spirit Who is **Another Advocate**

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But now - **LET ME BLOW YOUR MIND** - - - *Get Ready*

Here in **1John 2:1** - where it says *we have an advocate WITH the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*

This word **WITH** - means not only **in the Presence** of  
but **ALONG WITH** (in conjunction with) **the Father**

Meaning the **FATHER** is active  
**along with JESUS CHRIST** - - & along with the **HOLY SPIRIT**  
to make us **Righteous** before Him

The **ENTIRE GODHEAD** is **ACTIVELY involved** on our behalf  
to **cleanse** us from sin & make us **RIGHT** before GOD !!!

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& now - In Ch 2:2

not only is Jesus Christ the ADVOCATE with the Father  
to stand up on our behalf

But He is the Guaranteed Successful Advocate  
Because He is ALSO the PROPITIATION for our sins

1Jn 2:2 - ESV

2 He [Jesus] is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The word "Propitiation" means most LITERALLY  
The Satisfaction of God's WRATH

& more Specifically - it means

Jesus Christ Himself - was the sacrifice that was FULLY sufficient  
to FULLY PAY for our sins!

And not ours only

but His Sacrifice was FULLY Sufficient to FULLY PAY  
for the sins of the WHOLE WORLD

Do you see it?

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NOW - Let's review these two verses  
in the light of our SIN

Can the Work of Jesus Christ  
actually forgive us of our sins & make us right before God?

FIRST - Ch 2:1 says - Jesus Christ is our Advocate WITH the Father  
He stands up on our behalf with (along with) the Father

SECOND - Ch 2:1 says - Jesus Christ IS the Righteous

meaning He EXISTS as God's perfect RIGHTEOUSNESS  
giving Him the Right to stand up WITH (along with) the Father

**THIRD** - **Ch 2:2** says - Jesus Christ is **not only ALL THAT**

But He **HIMSELF** is the **SACRIFICE**

that **FULLY PAYS**

the **FULL PENALTY**

for our **FULL SIN** - - in our place

HE IS OUR **ADVOCATE** - Who stands up for us *With God*

HE IS GOD'S PERFECT **RIGHTEOUSNESS** - giving Him the *"Right"*

HE HIMSELF IS **THE SACRIFICE**

that **FULLY PAYS** - For Our **FULL SIN**

**All of THAT** means - Jesus Christ is **ABLE** - **More than ABLE**

to **Forgive** you of your sin - & to make you **RIGHT** before God

**WOULDN'T YOU AGREE ??**

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In our **last Msg** - John commanded us to **WALK IN THE LIGHT**

**Today** - we've learned **the First Way** we can do that

By **Turning away** from our sin

& by **fully trusting** in Jesus Christ - when we do sin

Sin is **very REAL** - & it is **completely DESTRUCTIVE**

But God's **REMEDY** for **SIN** - is Just As **REAL**

& **Eternally more powerful** - to **conquer** Sin

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In our **Fallen Nature** - we **cannot** become **SINLESS**  
But **if** we are **True Disciples** - we **absolutely** will **SIN LESS**

& if we do sin - we have an **ADVOCATE**  
Who **IS God's Righteousness**, &  
Who Himself **IS** the **Atoning Sacrifice** for our sin

& **BECAUSE** of the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ

***(v.9) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.***

That is **NOT** an **excuse** for sin

**It's an assurance - that if we are Walking in the Light**

Then we have an **ADVOCATE**  
Who will **cleanse** us from our sin  
So that we can have **fellowship**  
with **God**, & with **one another**

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& **PLS** Remember - **Anyone who says**  
they **don't need** Jesus Christ to **deal** with their **sin**  
is **LOST** in their deception - & calling God a **LIAR**

But anyone who **COMES to Jesus Christ**  
trusting Him as **Savior** & **Lord**

**will** have their **sins** completely **PAID FOR**  
**washed** away - by His own **Blood**

**Let's Pray**