



Walk

WITH

me



Walk WITH *Me*

Threat of Sin to Fellowship

1 John 1:5-10

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“The essence of sin is we human beings substituting ourselves for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting himself for us. We put ourselves where only God deserves to be; God puts himself where we deserve to be.” John Stott

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1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.

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God is Light! 5

- This is (still) the ‘message’ – Light of the World
- After 60 years – any second thoughts?
- Light – no darkness AT ALL!

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*“Faith is NOT a leap into the dark
but a step toward the Light!”*

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1 John 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

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Darkness 6

- Darkness – anything without light
- Fellowship is with Him
- Fellowship lights our path
- Fellowship practices the ‘truth’
- Fellowship is us together with all the above!

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*Virtue - even attempted virtue –
brings light; indulgence brings fog.*

- C.S. Lewis

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1 John 1:7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

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Light 7

- Walking in the Light – WWJD? Footwashing!
- We have fellowship around Jesus – not ourselves
- The blood cleanses the lens of His life in us
- Sin covers the light given from Christ by faith
- Sin comes between and blocks His light

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“Sin isn’t only doing bad things, it is more fundamentally making good things into ultimate things. Sin is building your life and meaning on anything, even a very good thing, more than on God. Whatever we build our life on will drive us and enslave us. Sin is primarily idolatry.” Timothy Keller

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Chiasm of 1 John 1:8-10

B

Verse 9 – confession & cleanses

A

Verse 8 – no
'sin' - nature

A

Verse 10 – not
'sinned' - personal



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1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin,
we are deceiving ourselves and the truth
is not in us.

Sin 8

- If we say ‘no sin’
- I have not been born in sin – Federal / Seminal
- I was born innocent –
- I am ok unless...
- I can fix this...

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*“Sin is a deep interior dislocation of the soul.
It’s a desire to keep control of your life.”*

Dorothy Sayers

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1 John 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

Sinned 10

- I have ‘not sinned’ – ‘that doesn’t count’
- Who do we get to interview?
- Pagans don’t often claim sinless lives
- Self-righteous attempt self-authentication
- Not His Word! – He is a liar?

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*“And of some sinful pleasure they say
“Let me have but this and I’ll take the
consequences” - little dreaming how
damnation will spread back and back into
their past and contaminate the pleasure
of the sin.” C.S. Lewis*

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1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Cleansed 9

- Key verb – ‘He is faithful and just’
- He will forgive – bear away
- He will cleanse – make whole and right
- Proof: If we confess – He will do all these
- ‘confess’ – agree with God – not Him to us

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“This day, my God, I hate sin not because it damns me, but because it has done You wrong. To have grieved my God is the worst grief to me.” Charles H. Spurgeon

Threat of Sin to Fellowship

- We underestimate the devastation of sin in our life
- We deceive ourselves with source or frequency
- We under value the support of FELLOWSHIP!
- We do not truly ‘confess’ = agree with God
 - *HATE PRODUCES GUILT - SHORT TERM*
 - *LOVE GIVES MOTIVE TO OBEY - LIFETIME*

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Time to wash up -

- How have we grieved God – confess it in prayer
- Who have we disappointed – confess it in person

Repent – Repair – Restore - Resume



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