

## 1. Why do believers still sin?

- Paul tells us why we still struggle with sin:
  - **Romans 7:14-20**
- Sin is living **in** us. The **sin nature** didn't leave our body when we believed the Gospel.
  - **Romans 7:21-23**
  - The sin nature is still **within** us and is at **war** with the mind. (7:23)
- The battle is won or lost in the mind. Beware of what you allow your mind to  **dwell** on.
- Temptation isn't sin, **obeying** it is.
- Paul says there is an answer to sin dominating us!
  - **Romans 7:24-25**
  - **Jesus Christ** our **Lord** is the one who will free us from a life dominated by sin and death!
- Jesus Christ has rescued us from sin in 3 ways:
  - **Penalty** of sin: Jesus completed this and fully applied it to our life for all eternity.
  - **Power** of sin: Jesus completed this, but we have a daily choice to apply this truth.
    - **Romans 6:5-7**
  - **Presence** of sin: Jesus completed this, but we won't experience it until our spirit and soul leave this body. Later, He will give us new perfected bodies!
    - **1 Corinthians 15:51-55**

## 2. Once saved, always saved?

- Since mankind's "fall" in Genesis 3, salvation from the penalty for sin has always been about what the **Promised Deliverer** would do to rescue people. People's only part is to respond in faith to His plan. (Ephesians 2:1-9)
- The Law reveals God's perfect standard of righteousness. He gave it to show that the entire world is guilty before Him. It was not given as a list of things to do in order to earn and keep salvation. (Romans 3:19-20)

## Sin and the Believer - Lesson 22

- People cannot earn salvation by good behavior, nor can they **maintain** it by good behavior. It was all provided by the work of Jesus Christ.
  - **Galatians 2:21**
- Since we are made right (justified) with God by trusting in Jesus death, burial, and resurrection in our place, our eternal security as His child is sure! (Romans 3:19-30)
- The moment a person admits their sin and truly believes in the Gospel, God gives them eternal life with Him. It's not really eternal if He takes it away. (John 3:16-18)
- His love for the believer is unending.
  - **Romans 8:35-38**
  - **Nothing** can ever separate us from God's love.
- What about the person claiming to be a "believer", but doesn't live like it? 2 possible reasons:
  - They know Biblical facts, but have not actually believed and embraced the Gospel.
  - They stopped growing and maturing in their relationship with God.
  - Illustration: giving birth versus growing up/maturing

### 3. Since I'm forgiven, is sinning really a big deal anymore?

- Paul answers if it's ok to keep sinning so God can show more of His wonderful grace...
  - **Romans 6:1-2**
  - Paul answered... **Of course not!**
    - Israel in slavery in Egypt is like us in slavery to sin before Christ. Going back to that life after being freed from it is ridiculous.
    - In prison, let out, only to go back in voluntarily. Illogical.
- Some of the consequences of sin for the believer:
  - We bring **sorrow** to God's Holy Spirit. **Ephesians 4:30-32**
  - We miss out on the good things God planned for us long ago. **Ephesians 2:10**
  - We experience a different type of "death": death of joy, peace, harmony in relationships, and fulfillment & purpose in life.
- God's desire is to **transform** us to be like Jesus, not to leave us living in the broken, sinful customs of this fallen world.
  - **Romans 12:1-2**