

Sin: the Interference to Abiding in Christ

◆ *Scripture Reading:*

◆ I John 3:1-6



INTRODUCTION and REVIEW

◇ WE ARE RIGHTEOUS

◇ A state of having acted righteously (correctly) because of our position in Christ - II Cor 5:21

◇ “For He made Him who knew no sin *to be sin for us*, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him”

INTRODUCTION and REVIEW

- ◆ WE ARE TO ACCOMPLISH ACTIONS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
- ◆ God has planned things for us to do during our daily lives on Earth - Eph 2:10
- ◆ “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

INTRODUCTION and REVIEW

◆ WE CAN CONSISTENTLY PERFORM THESE ACTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS


◆ “Abide in Me. And I in you” - Jn 15:1-5

◆ As we feel at ease in our position in Christ

◆ The Indwelling Christ feels at ease in us

INTRODUCTION

In John's first letter to the small churches around Ephesus, he emphasizes the reality of the believer's possession and use of a sin nature – I Jn 1:6,8-9



The use of our sin nature interrupts our ability to abide in Christ



As we continue to examine John's detailed instruction about "abiding" in chapter three, we find his explanation of that which interferes with feeling at ease ("abiding")

What Needs to be Protected from Sin's Interruption?

◇ Our new relationship to God as His children
– “Born Ones” 1 Jn 3:1

◇ His love given to us, to be called “born-ones”

◇ See OT love of God – Deut 7:7-9, 13

◇ Because of this birth, the unsaved world does not know us (in the realm of or salvation)

What Needs to be Protected from Sin's Interruption?

◇ **The hope concerning our future existence**

– **1 Jn 3:2**

◇ Our future manner of existence is NOT NOW experientially known

◇ Whenever He appears, we will be like His resurrected body and see Him as He now is

◇ cf 1 Tim 6:16

What Needs to be Protected from Sin's Interruption?

◆ **Our present purpose based on this promised existence – I Jn 3:2**

◆ “this hope” - cf Titus 2:13

◆ His glorious appearing)

◆ “purifying” ourselves as He is pure

◆ cf Titus 2:12

The Interruption of this Purposed Purifying (I Jn 3:4-5)

◇ **Sin = lawlessness**

◇ **Acting as if God has no expectations of us**

◇ This contradicts the purifying of vs 3 – the setting ourselves apart unto Christ' character and purpose for our lives

◇ Christ was manifested to take our sins - vs 5

◇ cf Jn 1:29

◇ And in Him is no sin (nature)

◇ cf Jn 16:10

The Abiding Believer in Relationship to the Practice of Sin (I Jn 3:6)

◆ **The abiding believer does not practice (keep on) sinning**

◆ **Because Christ's Word is feeling at ease (abiding) in him – I Jn 2:14,24**

◆ **Because of the “ill-repute” Satan brings against the Father - cf I Jn 2:1, Rev 12:10**

CONCLUSION

- ◇ If we do not USE God's provided defense against our sin nature and its strong desires (lusts, Rom 6:11), we will interrupt our **feeling at ease (abiding) in Christ.**
- ◇ But if we continue to feel at ease in Christ and His Word, we will USE His provided defense against our sin nature that enables us to pursue our present purpose: **being separated unto Him – until He appears.**