

Sin

Choices and Consequences

Previous sermon:
HACKING AGAG TO PIECES (1Sam15)

Lesson for us:

- Obedience: who is king of your life?
- Dealing with sin ruthlessly

Also taught by Jesus:

Matthew 18:8

If your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire.

CHOICE(S) CONSEQUENCE(S)

Deut 30

19 This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you **life and death, blessings and curses.**

Now choose life, so that you and your children may live

20 and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him.

For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Rom 8:13

13 For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

CHOICES:

DENYING SIN or DETECTING SIN?

CONCEALING SIN or CONFESSING SIN?

CHERISHING SIN or HATING SIN?

FEEDING DESIRES, or FLEEING FROM SIN?

WELCOMING or DESPISING the LORD's DISCIPLINE?

STANDING STRONG or EASY VICTIM?

Phil 2:12

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed, (...) continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

DENYING SIN or DETECTING SIN?

Psalm 36

There is no fear of God before his eyes.

2 For in his own eyes he flatters himself
too much to detect or hate his sin.

John 16

8 When he (*the Holy Spirit*) comes, he will convict the world of guilt (expose the guilt of the world) in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment:

1John1

8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

CONCEALING SIN or CONFESSING SIN?

Psalms 32

3 When I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"—
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Prov 28

13 Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper,
but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

14 Blessed is the one who always trembles before God,
but whoever hardens their heart falls into trouble.

1 John 1

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

CHERISHING SIN or HATING SIN?

Psalm 66

18 If I had cherished sin in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened;

Psalm 119

104 I gain understanding from your precepts;
therefore I hate every wrong path.

163 I hate and detest falsehood
but I love your law.

FEEDING DESIRES, or FLEEING FROM SIN?

Jam 1

13 When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; 14 but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. 15 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Rom 13

14b ...do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

14a Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ

1Cor 6

18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.

1Pet 2:11

Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.

2 Timothy 2:22

Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

WELCOMING or DESPISING the LORD's DISCIPLINE? (1/2)

Proverbs 10:17, 12:1, 13:18

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid.

Ps 66

8 Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard;

9 he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.

10 For you, God, tested us; you refined us like silver.

11 You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs.

Ps 94

12 Blessed is the man you discipline, O LORD,
the man you teach from your law;

Hebrews 12:11

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Rev 3:19

Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent.

WELCOMING or DESPISING the LORD's DISCIPLINE? (2/2)

Psalm 119

- 65 Do good to your servant
according to your word, LORD.
- 66 Teach me knowledge and good judgment,
for I trust your commands.
- 67 **Before I was afflicted I went astray,
but now I obey your word.**
- 68 You are good, and what you do is good;
teach me your decrees. (...)
- 71 **It was good for me to be afflicted
so that I might learn your decrees.**

Job 5

- 17 “Blessed is the man whom God corrects;
so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.
- 18 For he wounds, but he also binds up;
he injures, but his hands also heal.

STANDING STRONG or EASY VICTIM? (1/5)

The Word

Psalm 119

9 How can a young person stay on the path of purity?

By living according to your word.

10 I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.

11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Coll 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly

STANDING STRONG or EASY VICTIM? (2/5)

Prayer

Psalm 19:

12 But who can discern their own errors?

Forgive my hidden faults.

13 Keep your servant also from willful sins;
may they not rule over me.

Matt 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'

Matt 26:41 "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Pure living

Eph 4:26 "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and **do not give the devil a foothold.**

STANDING STRONG or EASY VICTIM? (3/5)

Focus

Rom 13

14b ...do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh

14a Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ

Phil 3

8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Together

Gal 6

1 Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. 2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

2 *Timothy 2:22* Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

James 5:16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

STANDING STRONG or EASY VICTIM? (4/5)

Only in His power

Rom 13

14a Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ

Rom 8:13

13 For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

Eph6

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

STANDING STRONG or EASY VICTIM? (5/5)

Humbling ourselves

1Cor 10

12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

James 4

7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

9 Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.

10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.