



What Happened to Sin

1 John 3:7-10

In a recent Ellison Research study, thirteen percent of Americans say there is no such thing as _____. No doubt Jesus demonstrated amazing patience with sinful people and He loved everyone, but to suggest that He never spoke of sin _____ what is written in Scripture. Jesus said, "I have not come to call the righteous, but _____ to repentance" (Luke 5:32). Paul said that Jesus came to earth to _____ sinners (1 Timothy 1:15). The fact that Jesus loved and received sinners does not _____ that He condoned sin.

From the very beginning people have _____ downplayed sin. People don't think sin is all that _____. They want to _____ someone else for it. In the beginning, Adam blamed _____, and Eve blamed the _____ (Genesis 3:8-13).

The Bible says that God "will render to each one according to his _____" (Romans 2:6-11). Some say, "Well, _____ made me this way," and they are suggesting that they cannot help but _____. Sin is not a characteristic; sin is a _____; the Bible explains this in James 1:13-15. Someone says, "I cannot see any _____ in it." The question of what is right or wrong is not determined by what we _____ is or is not harmful. God sees things we cannot _____ and He knows things we cannot _____ (Isaiah 55:8-9). We must _____ in His judgment, not our own. We might easily be swayed by what is common or popular among people, but those people will not _____ us in the last day. The Bible _____ us about this in 1 John 2:15-17.

Some people excuse their sins by saying, "Well, we're just not supposed to _____ anybody." This is an impossible _____; we all judge and we all make judgments. Jesus realized that people make _____ judgments based on human standards; and the Lord is opposed to that kind of judging, but this doesn't mean that people must _____ make any kind of moral judgment (John 7:24). The immature or naïve person is the one who _____ make a judgment. One of the goals of education is for the student to demonstrate critical _____ skills – that is making judgments! It is amazing that colleges want students to demonstrate the ability to _____ about most things in life except moral and spiritual matters. Spiritual maturity includes the ability to use God's Word to distinguish what is _____ from what is _____ (Hebrews 5:12-14; Proverbs 22:3).

Others excuse their sins by saying, "God wants me to be _____." People may find some _____ in sin, but it won't last (Hebrews 11:25). Pleasure and happiness are not the same as _____ that comes from God, it is the product of righteousness (1 Corinthians 13:6).

Sin leads to spiritual _____ (Ezekiel 18:4; Romans 6:23; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Revelation 21:8). Sin takes place when someone transgresses God's _____ (1 John 3:4). You sin when you _____ to hear what God says and you do what you want to do. Sin also takes place when people fail to do what is _____ (James 4:17). No matter how we feel about sin, God takes sin _____. Jesus took our sins personally, because of His _____ for each of us, He was willing to take the punishment we deserved (Galatians 1:4; 1 Peter 2:24; Isaiah 53:5-6).

God doesn't simply want to _____ you of sin, He wants you to _____ your life, He wants sin out of your life and righteousness in your life (1 John 3:7-9).

To be right with God:

We must _____ that we've sinned (Romans 3:23).

We must _____ the Word of God, take it to heart and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We must _____ of our sins (Acts 17:30-31).

We must be _____ (Acts 22:16).

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PO Box 371, Edmond, OK 73083 1-800-321-8633

www.searchtv.org; jerry@searchtv.org