



PO BOX 943, SUPERIOR MT 59872  
Gathering at 502 Pike Street

WEEKLY WRAP-UP

**TITLE:** A Confident Christian: A Confidence Building Journey in 1<sup>st</sup> John

**TEXT:** 1 John 3:1-9

**DATE:** 10 March 2024

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**OPENING COMMENTS:**

**First statement:** Today, we are going to look one last time, at our concentrated study in **1 John 3:1-9**, with a focus on **vs. 8-9**. *“God is speaking in these days, the question is ... are you and I listening?”*

**Second statement:** God’s message has been abundantly clear in this passage; namely, *“Do you have a relationship with God,”* and *“Are you in fellowship with God?”*

**Third statement:** Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, John is writing to believers, true-born again children of God. Listen, fellow believers, you can know you’re saved--in Christ--and you can also learn and know, how to live in fellowship with your Lord.

**Fourth statement:** Now, as we come to a concluding look at this specific section of **1 John**, let’s take the time to re-read these verses as a whole **1 John 3:1-9**:

***<sup>1</sup> Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore, the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not.***

***<sup>2</sup> Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.***

***<sup>3</sup> And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure.***

***<sup>4</sup> Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.***

***<sup>5</sup> And ye know that He was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin.***

***<sup>6</sup> Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him.***

***<sup>7</sup> Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous.***

***<sup>8</sup> He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.***

***<sup>9</sup> Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for His seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.***

**Fifth statement:** It’s worth repeating; the emphasis of the Gospel of John is Salvation, while the emphasis here in 1 John is on Sanctification—*growing in Christ-likeness*—as we ***abide in Christ***.

**Sixth statement:** Coming to the conclusion of our passage for today, **1 John 3:1-9**, let's be reminded of our 3-point outline:

- 1st: Relationship Secured: 1 John. 3:1-2**
- 2nd: Fellowship Stressed: 1 John. 3:3-5:**
- 3rd: Abiding Stated: 1 John 3:6-9:**

**The final statement** takes us back to a re-occurring theme that we have stressed and will continue to refer to, a theme that is based in a passage from Paul, not John, and it's from Ephesians:

**Ephesians 2:8-10:**

***<sup>8</sup> For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: <sup>9</sup> Not of works, lest any man should boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.***

*"Let's Pray Together"*

Father, we come to *Praise You* today. Jesus, we come to *Thank You* today. Holy Spirit we come to *Express our Love* to You today. And, Lord God, we come to acknowledge that *We Need You* today. Amen.

**3rd Point: Abiding Stated: 1 John 3: 7-9**

**1 John 3:8:**

***<sup>8</sup> He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.***

1. **Realize** that **verse 8** begins by just saying sin is completely characteristic of the devil—Satan; NOT God. **John 8:44** says that the devil—Satan is *the father of all lies and sin*.

*Pastor Cucuzzo* reminds all believers that the devil—Satan used to be our father and we lived according to his dark demands. Now, **"in Christ,"** we have a new Father whereby we cry "Abba, Father!" **At salvation** the penalty of our sins and the power of the devil—Satan are no longer ruling over us. Jesus proclaimed in **John 8:36: *If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.*** Other verses support this truth such as:

**2 Corinthians 5:17:**

***Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.***

As we look again at **verse 8: *He that committeth sin is of the devil.*** It seems quite logical to conclude, then, that every evil, sinful act has only one source: the devil—Satan, GOD DOES NOT SIN!

2. **Remember:**  
*Cucuzzo* writes: *"the devil is the father of sin and every time we sin, its' characteristic of the devil, it's certainly not characteristic of God because in Him is no sin at all: **"in Him is no sin" 1 John 3:5...***
3. **Recognize** the truth that Christians do sin, although some false teachers proclaim that when you get saved you no longer sin, which is absolutely, not true! Are you a Christian? Do you sin?

The question is not if you sin as a Christian, but when you sin as a Christian, which part of you, sins, your old nature or your new nature? All sinning is done by the Christians *old nature* that still resides in the Christians life. The *new nature* cannot sin; look at **v.9**:

**1 John 3:9:**

***9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for His seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.***

- **Recognize** first that the word Commit is in the present tense which speaks to a single act of sin in the present. Many will respond, “Yes, I sin but I don’t practice sin.” The word “commit,” is present in that a given moment you sin ... now.

**Cucuzzo** writes: The *new nature* in us (which we received at salvation) does not sin ... practice or otherwise ... “Wait a minute ... it’s in the present tense ... let’s deal with this once for all ... this is not an issue of practicing sin ...

First, the word “commit” is the Greek word “*poeaeo*” it means “*to do, to make or to produce*” ... this word here does NOT mean to practice ... there is a Greek word reserved for that and it’s the word “*proso*” and this word means *to practice*. When I live according to my *new nature* ... **abiding** and walking in my *new nature* I do not sin because it cannot sin!!!! At that moment I am living as a child of God!

When I’m not abiding in my new nature I am living in and by my old nature which can and does commit sin ... like a child of the devil ...

Note **1 John** is talking about living as a child of God, it’s about the encouragement to live the new abiding-life that we have **in Christ** and to do that, we must know we do sin as believers and then, what to do with that sin is found in **1 John1:8-9**:

***8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.***

***9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.***

- Recognize the problem in understanding the *act of sin* and the *practicing of sin* is often caused by the misinterpretation of some of our “*modern*” translations, for instance ...

The error seen in the ESV Bible (English Standard Bible) translates **verse 9** as:

***No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God.***

The error seen in the NASB Bible (New American Standard Bible) translates **verse 9** as:

***No one who has been born of God practices sin, because His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin continually, because he has been born of God.***

Ok, you’re a Christian even though you’ve been told you won’t sin, you still do. But wait, no worries, at least I don’t practice sin, like there is a difference seen by God in a single sin or the practicing of several sins -- one at a time! **Sin is sin and must be dealt with by God.**

Consider **1 John 5:16a: <sup>16</sup> If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask,**” but wait, I thought if we’re saved, we won’t sin ... so, it’s ok to sin a little just so we don’t practice sin habitually ... What?

Look God is not confused about sin and its’ deadly ways. He has in **Jesus Christ** taken care of the devil—Satan and all his deadly ways on the cross. His forgiveness is available!

## CONCLUSION

The moment you called upon Jesus for salvation (**Romans 10:13**) He gave you a new nature which does not sin-ever. (**2 Corinthians 5:17**) Though set free from sin, that old nature still resides in your life and constantly battles for its’ way against your *new nature in Christ*. (**Romans 7; Galatians 5**)

Right this very moment you are either:

- **A natural man:** lost in need of salvation
- **A carnal Christian** living like a lost man; OR
- **A spiritual Christian** seeking to abide in Jesus

**1 Corinthians 2:14 - 3:3**

**<sup>14</sup> Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of His knowledge by us in every place.**

**<sup>15</sup> For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish:**

**<sup>16</sup> To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things?**

**<sup>17</sup> For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.**

**3:1 Do we begin again to commend ourselves? or need we, as some others, epistles of commendation to you, or letters of commendation from you?**

**<sup>2</sup> Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:**

**<sup>3</sup> Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.**

**1 Peter 2:9:**

**<sup>9</sup> But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light;**

**Romans 10:13:**

**For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

**John 6:47:**

**Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on Me hath everlasting life.**