**4/27/25**

**A New Day…..A Redeemed Life**

**RECAP: John 1-5, 14**

1 In the beginning was the Word, (the Word already existed) and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 **He** existed in the beginning with God.

3 God created everything through **Him**, And nothing was created except through **Him**.

4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (Or the darkness has not understood it.)

(My Comment): What is that darkness; but sin due to the absence of His light.)

What Exactly Is Sin?

Sin is anything you say, do, or think, that goes against what God wants. While this might seem like an overly simplistic definition, it does point to the heart of what sin is.

Over time, conversations about sin has become passé or out of style. But it shouldn’t be, because sin is just as dangerous and destructive now as it has been since Adam and Eve ate the fruit. So it should not be ignored or taken lightly.

In the Bible, the word sin – whether it is in the Hebrew or the Greek – actually means ‘to miss the mark.’ The reason this definition is so important is because it points to two things. First, there is a target we should be aiming at, and Second, it speaks to our intention(s).

Once we know there is a target, then we can choose to aim to hit it, or to miss it.

The target is God’s Word and His Commands, and when we miss this target, we have committed sin.

I hear the unspoken cry: You say, “Wait! I’m human! I’m not perfect! What if I miss by mistake!? True!

What makes it sinful is **when we know what we are supposed to do and we choose not to do it.** Then we are engaging in sin!

14 So the Word became human and made His home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen His glory, the glory of the Father’s one and only Son.

**What does that mean for us today?**

**Romans 6:12-14 says it best:**

 **“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to Him as an instrument of righteousness. For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace”**

**Hebrews 4: 12 – 16**

**12** For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

(Explanation) :

The Word of God divides or separates the soul and spirit of man because they are two separate and distinct entities. There would be no need to divide them if they were the same. (For instance, if you tried to separate water from water.)

The words “cutting between soul and spirit” represents the Word of God’s power to penetrate and reveal the true nature of our inner selves, separating our thoughts and actions into what is good and evil. The word “cutting” in this context signifies the Word of God’s ability to discern between our natural desires (the soul (our human nature,) including emotions, thoughts, and desires) and the Holy Spirit (our connection with God) ultimately helping us make choices aligned with God’s will.

**13** Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before His eyes, and He is the one to whom we are accountable.

**14** So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. (**!?** Pause) Hold firmly to the faith we profess.

**15** For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for He faced all of the same testings we do, yet He did not sin.

TESTINGS:

\* Those that oppose and/or argue.

\* Those that hate and hated Him.

\* Those that plotted to murder Him.

\* Betrayal (Judas's betrayal)

\* Satan’s temptations

\* Peter’s denials

\* Disappointment with others /at His disciples sleeping.

\* Anguish at facing accusations and persecution (crucifixion and death.) (Jesus was deeply distressed and troubled as he anticipated his impending suffering and death.)

\* Not my will, but His Will be done.

\* Choosing forgiveness over being unforgiving. Carrying hatred and grudges rather than following God’s commands to love, to prefer, to longsuffer, to turn the other cheek, to forgive.

**Conclusion** :

**16** Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.