

Owning my Sin

Burden:

Ro 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

- How can we break the power of sin?

Lu 18:13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Ge 3:12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

Ge 3:13 And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

Sin is transgressing the commands of God.

Ga 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

I. Sinners by Birth

Romans 5: 12-21

1. The sinful nature of Adam is passed down through to every human being.

Vs 12

- Before there was the Mosaic law -there was sin!

Vs 13-14 -sin was in the world because men were full of the sinful nature of Adam

- ✓ Look at Cain slaying Abel -why?? Because there was law or because there was sinful hearts?

2. Because of this inherited nature, the natural bent of a child's heart is toward selfishness

- Watch small children with toys -hear them fuss when someone takes them
- Babies are born and need a mother's care for everything - they can start to feel like they are the center of the universe.
- Long about 1, 2 or 3 years old it really bumps hard -the clash of the will, the quest for self & attention!
- We train and discipline -they yield and learn submission, obedience, and self-sacrifice.
- BUT THEY STILL HAVE THE ADAMIC NATURE!

Don't be too shocked when children are bad -that's what the carnal nature does -but correct it, deal with it!

3. We believe children are safe in Christ in their innocence

Matt 19:14 But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

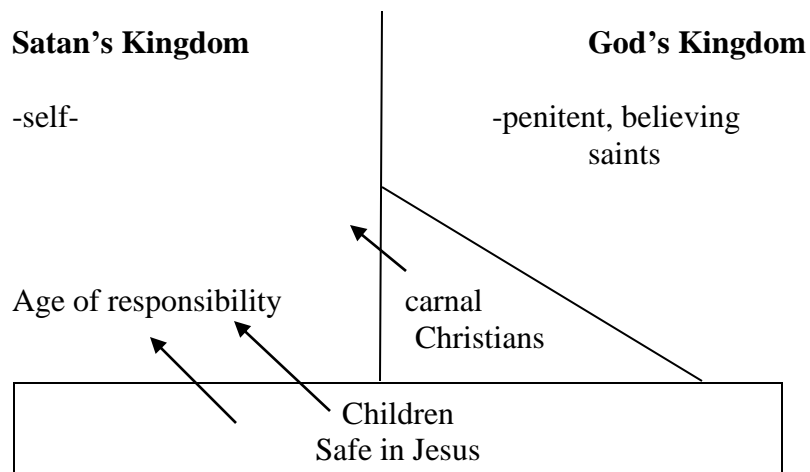
-Drawing illustrating the 2 kingdoms-

- When a child reaches the age of responsibility:
 - -age when they can do things on their own, don't need their parents with them all the time –(drive, go off to work, stop at a store to buy some personal things.)
 - They will automatically enter Satan's kingdom even if they are well-taught!
 - They have to do something with Jesus Christ!
 - To do nothing about salvation -about Jesus' shed blood is to deny Christ!

Not all youth will "FEEL" like they are serious sinners.

Not every one will hear a call from God to become a Christian!

- When you know you are of age -then respond!!
- It's more about the knowledge of God and who I am then about some heavy weight of conviction on my heart!



II. Tempting Wrong Responses

1. Procrastinate

Acts 24:25 And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.

Acts 26:28 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.

2. Denial

1Jo 1:8 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.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

3. Excuses & Blaming Others

- I don't mean to be harsh, it's just the way I come across
- My family is this way
- My background, my childhood

Psychology:

- Repressed memories -no where do I find Scriptural teaching how to release unknown issues from childhood
- If you have certain temptations today -someone must have done something to you in childhood.

Honor culture – Wild West, take care of yourself

Dignity culture – sensitivity to hurts is low, realizing our standing before God is most important and dependent on faith in God and our inner character

Victim culture –

- You cannot understand me and are committing an injustice against me unless you are a part of my victimized group.
- You've never experienced what I have so you don't understand and can't relate to me
- Because of my situation, anything I say is out of love even if it doesn't seem so, but if you in any way disagree with me you are spiteful, uncaring, calloused, and unloving.

1Co 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you **but such as is common to man**: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

4. Criticizing Authority & Others

- A struggling youth can find some flaw in his Dad
- A failing member can see some flaw in the church
- A sinner in the community can often find something wrong with the Christians he knows.

III. The Answer

1. Freedom through confession

1Jo 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness

Owning my sin -prompts me to confess it and forsake it.

- Confessing someone else's sin will never clear it

Luke 15:16-17 “ I will arise and go to my Father”

- No excuses, no blame-shifting

2. Focus on growth

- I cannot change what happens to me in life
- But I can have a clean heart through it all

Owning my sin -allows me to test and measure my growth in obedience and faithfulness

Suppose My Dad was a big part of my youth struggles?

- What if I focus only on how my heart can grow?
- What if by God's grace I rise above my parents?

3. Faith

- In the God of Heaven
- In the blood of Jesus Christ
- In the Bible

It's my observation that people who don't own their sin:

- Lose what little faith they once had
- Turn their families and friends away from faith in God
- Give occasion for the world to scoff at God's people