

No temptation has come upon you except what is common to humanity.

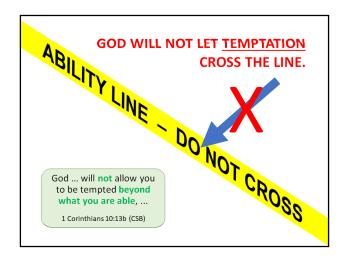
But God is faithful; he will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation he will also provide a way out so that you may be able to bear it.

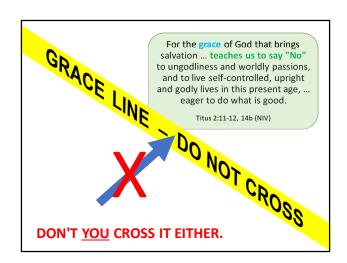
1 Corinthians 10:13 (CSB)

The problem occurs when we CHOOSE ...

IT LOOKS SO EXCITING!

- ✓ To focus on the temptation with a longing desire.
- ✓ To NOT take the way out that <u>GOD</u> provided.





GOD'S GRACE

- > Available to all.
- > Offers salvation to all.
- ➤ Teaches the way of salvation.

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.

It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Titus 2:11-14 (NIV)

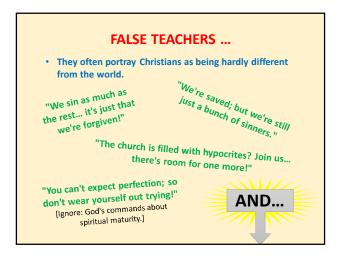
THOSE WILLING TO LEARN

- > Redeemed and purified.
- ➤ Willing to live godly lives.
- Aware that <u>GOD</u> made it possible.

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Titus 2:11-14 (NIV)



· They often blur the distinction between GENUINE followers of Jesus and FAKES. "Some Christians are 'Worldly' they live for themselves, Others "The Corinthians lived sinful they live for God."

are 'spiritual' they live for God." lives, and were still saved ... so we can also live sinful lives and be saved in lighter ? Corinthians of their sin. be saved!"

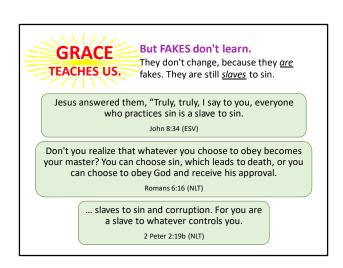
tells us that they repented of their sin.] "You can accept Jesus as 'Savior.' Or you can go one step further and accept him as 'Lord.' " [What they mean: You can keep sinning, and still get to heaven. Or you can go one Step further, and start obeying the Bible, and get more rewards in heaven.]

WHAT FALSE TEACHERS SAY WILL SOMETIMES CONTAIN HALF-TRUTH.

 EXAMPLE: They point out that nobody is totally <u>sinless</u> (a true statement). They ignore Jesus' requirement of spiritual maturity – which means <u>sinning less</u>.

THEIR OVER-ALL MESSAGE IS NOT WHAT SCRIPTURE SAYS!

- They close their eyes to Scripture passages that point to spiritual growth and maturity, and victory over sin <u>in this</u> present life.
- They blur the distinction between the church-going <u>FAKES</u> (who <u>claim</u> to be saved) and <u>genuine</u> Christians (who <u>are</u> saved).



"NEWBORNS" may start out with GRACE sin; but they are willing to learn. TEACHES US. They change, because they are born of God. They are no longer *slaves* to sin. No one who is born of God will continue to sin. because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on This refers to sinning, because he has been born of God. the conduct We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God [=Jesus] keeps your life. him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. 1 John 3:9; 5:18 (NIV) Much of the New Testament was written to teach "newborns" how to grow up, because they didn't know!



For genuine followers of Jesus, SIN IS NO LONGER OUR MASTER!

For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law, but under grace.

Romans 6:14 (NASB)

- Before we were changed by grace, the Law told us how to live, but it could not change our hearts. We kept choosing to sin.
 """
- Now that grace has <u>changed</u> us, God has embedded his Law in our hearts. Now we can desire and choose to do what is right!

"I will put my laws on their hearts and I will inscribe them on their minds,..."

Hebrews 10:16 (NET)

HOW could we ever want to return to the slavery of sin?

JESUS AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS

NOW RULE OUR LIVES!

But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, ... You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

Romans 6:17a, 18 (NIV)

NO THANKS, SATAN!
MY NEW MASTER
DOESN'T MAKE ME
WEAR THOSE!

✓ Only the FAKES think that GRACE allows us to go on sinning. What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Romans 6:1-2 (ESV) So since God's grace has set us free from the law, does this mean we can go on sinning? Of course not! Romans 6:15 (NLT) GENUINE! SINCE GRACE CHANGED IF I PRAY THE "FORGIVENESS PRAYER" EACH TIME I SIN, AND TAUGHT ME, I CAN SIN ALL I WANT, AND I DON'T HAVE TO SIN! GOD STILL GO TO HEAVEN! **GAVE ME NEW DESIRES!**

√ GENUINE followers of Jesus know that what they do matters. [God] will render to each one according to his works: **GENUINE!** to those who by patience in well-doing Willing to do seek for glory and honor and the works of immortality, he will give eternal life; righteousness. but for those who are self-seeking and FAKE! do not obey the truth, but obey Still filled with unrighteousness, there will be wrath the fruit of sin. and fury. Romans 2:6-8 (ESV)

WHAT?? GOOD WORKS?? ... to those who by patience in well-doing* seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; ...

Romans 2:7 (ESV)

- * (This can also be translated as "persistence in doing good" as done by NIV and CSB translations.)
- FAKES may claim that this verse can't be true, because (they claim) it would mean "working for your salvation."
- ✓ GENUINE followers of Jesus know that this verse <u>is</u>
 - Their ability and desire to do these things came from God
 - Since they <u>are</u> saved, they are now just doing what GRACE taught them to do!

YES!! GOOD WORKS!! Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

2 Cor. 5:17 (NIV)

For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift— not from works, so that no one can boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of timed for us to do.

Ephesians 2:8-10 (CSB)

- ✓ GENUINE followers of Jesus know:
 - Salvation means a <u>new</u> life with <u>new</u> values.
 - The very works they do were prepared by God!

✓ FAKES may turn GRACE into an excuse for sin...

... ungodly men who have turned the grace of our God into a license for evil and who deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jude 1:4 (NET)

- ✓ But Scripture tells GENUINE followers of Jesus to:
 - Watch out for such false teachings.
 - Grow in the GRACE that changes them!

You therefore, ... take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 3:17-18 (ESV)

SALVATION FROM SIN

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

ETERNITY WITH GOD

It's all by GRACE

- GOD'S "UNDESERVED KINDNESS" -

FROM START ...

... TO FINISH!

THIS WEEK:

WHEN YOU'RE TEMPTED TO SIN... "REMEMBER"!

- √ God saved you so you no longer have to sin!
- ✓ God will provide a way for you to escape (or get through) the temptation.





LOOK FOR THAT WAY OF ESCAPE, AND BE FREE!



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