




#26



# KILLER SINS



God's GRACE in fighting sin.



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 GOD provided.

**GOD WILL NOT LET TEMPTATION CROSS THE LINE.**


**ABILITY LINE - DO NOT CROSS**



God ... will **not** allow you to be tempted **beyond what you are able**, ...

1 Corinthians 10:13b (CSB)

**GRACE LINE - DO NOT CROSS**



For the **grace** of God that brings salvation ... **teaches us to say "No"** to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ... eager to do what is good.

Titus 2:11-12, 14b (NIV)

**DON'T YOU CROSS IT EITHER.**

**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 GOD made it possible.

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)

## FALSE TEACHERS ...

- They often portray Christians as being hardly different from the world.

"We sin as much as the rest... it's just that we're forgiven!"

"We're saved; but we're still just a bunch of sinners."

"The church is filled with hypocrites? Join us... there's room for one more!"

"You can't expect perfection; so don't wear yourself out trying!"  
[Ignore: God's commands about spiritual maturity.]

AND...

- They often blur the distinction between GENUINE followers of Jesus and FAKES.

"Some Christians are 'worldly' - they live for themselves. Others are 'spiritual' - they live for God."

"The Corinthians lived sinful lives, and were still saved ... so we can also live sinful lives and be saved!" [Ignore: 2 Corinthians 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 sinless (a true statement). They ignore Jesus' requirement of spiritual maturity – which means sinning less.

### 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 in this present life.
- They blur the distinction between the church-going FAKES (who claim to be saved) and genuine Christians (who are saved).

## GRACE TEACHES US.

### But FAKES don't learn.

They don't change, because they are fakes. They are still slaves to sin.

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin."

John 8:34 (ESV)

Don't you realize that whatever you choose to obey becomes your master? You can choose sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God and receive his approval.

Romans 6:16 (NLT)

... slaves to sin and corruption. For you are a slave to whatever controls you.

2 Peter 2:19b (NLT)

## GRACE TEACHES US.

"NEWBORNS" may start out with sin; but they are willing to learn.

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 sinning, because he has been born of God.

We know that anyone **born of God** does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God [=Jesus] keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him.

1 John 3:9; 5:18 (NIV)

This refers to the conduct that characterizes your life.

Much of the New Testament was written to teach "newborns" how to grow up, because they didn't know!

## GRACE TEACHES US.

GOD'S PEOPLE do learn what grace teaches.

They are no longer slaves to sin.

## WHAT DO THEY LEARN?

❖ They learn that sin is no longer their master!

❖ They learn to be free!

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 changed 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)

**FAKE!**

IF I PRAY THE "FORGIVENESS PRAYER" EACH TIME I SIN, I CAN SIN ALL I WANT, AND STILL GO TO HEAVEN!

SINCE GRACE CHANGED AND TAUGHT ME, I DON'T HAVE TO SIN! GOD GAVE ME NEW DESIRES!

**GENUINE!**

- ✓ **GENUINE** followers of Jesus know that *what they do* matters.

[God] will render to each one according to his works:

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

but for those who are **self-seeking** and do not obey the truth, but **obey unrighteousness**, there will be wrath and fury.

Romans 2:6-8 (ESV)

**GENUINE!**  
Willing to do the works of righteousness.

**FAKE!**  
Still filled with the fruit of sin.

**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 **is true**, because:

- Their ability and desire to do these things came from God.
- Since they are 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 time for us to do.

Ephesians 2:8-10 (CSB)

- ✓ **GENUINE** followers of Jesus know:

- Salvation means a new life with new 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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