

**A Practical Study of 1 JOHN
“Fellowship With The Father”
Study Number Two**

1 John 1:5-2:2

Fellowship is Broken by Sin

INTRODUCTION:

Steven Lawson has written a book *Men Who Win: Pursuing the Ultimate Prize* and he says:

I am the last person in the world to talk about [food and dieting]. I eat from the three basic food groups-- McDonald's, Wendy's, and Burger King. I have a personality clash with vegetables. They don't like me, and the feeling is mutual.

p. 72

As we begin to talk about the matter of sin, of course it almost moves into every realm, whether it is food or exercise or a lot of things that we have a tendency to rationalize and put behind us.

We are coming to a sobering study today in the sense it one of the most important. It is the study of fellowship begin broken by sin.

Now remember the distinction last time was simply this – relationship is permanent. Sin does not affect relationship but it does affect fellowship. And when you and I are living with unjudged sin in our lives we

are out of fellowship, we are still in relationship.

Too many times Christians get fouled up on this and you have a hodgepodge of theology whereby you have people loosing their salvation and gaining it back again and loosing it and gaining it back simply because they do not understand these simple words.

You know when it comes to the matter of sin human nature has a tendency to limit it to just two things and to leave out the most important. For there is a third item that involves sin that is the most important of all but most neglected.

- 1. What is sin going to do to the person who is committing it? And that is me. What is going to happen to me if I do this?**
- 2. Then secondly, what is going to happen to the people around me that are going to be affected by this?**
- 3. But too many times we leave out the third and it is the third that is the most important. What does sin do to God?**

You will find there are two great illustrations of this in the Scriptures and these are men who both had one thing in common and that is they were men that God delighted in and blessed.

If you will remember JOSEPH was sold as a slave by his brothers into Egypt. He worked for Potiphar and Potiphar traveled a lot and Mrs. Potiphar wanted to have a little sexual escapade with Joseph and remember what Joseph said to her? “I cannot sin and do this great wickedness against God.” Of course he mentions his boss and that his boss, her husband had given him everything he has wanted or needed only kept for himself his wife which is his just due. But he actually underscores the seriousness of the matter by saying, “how can I sin and do this great wickedness against God?” No wonder Joseph was so singly blessed by the Lord.

And the other individual was DAVID, a man after God’s own heart. And yet the guy is guilty of adultery and murder. What is it though about David that makes him a man after God’s own heart? I think it is the key phrase in his confession. “Against you and you only have I done this great wickedness. I have sinned in Your sight.” Sure I have hurt Bathsheba. Sure I took Uriah’s life. Sure all these other things have happened and devastated the kingdom but more than that this is what I did to You. I sinned against You.”

And sin in my life will involve fellowship. And we need to realize that the relationship is intact but the fellowship is broken.

I think one of the most serious consequences of sin is the fact that God and I cannot be on speaking terms as long as there is sin in my life that has not been dealt

with.

Last time we talked about the four foundations for fellowship in those four verses.

1. First of all Jesus Christ came in human flesh to establish relationship and make fellowship possible.
2. He came to bring life and life is relationship and fellowship with God.
3. Once we have responded to Jesus Christ we have fellowship with Him and with one another.
4. And that issues in abundant joy.

So we used this equation to summarize the last study.
JESUS CHRIST + LIFE + FELLOWSHIP = JOY!

Now we move into the realm of the actual business with regard to fellowship. Now that it has been established, what are some things that we need to know about it? The rest of the studies are going to deal with it. And isn't it interesting that the #1 thing that we have to treat today is the problem of sin?

v. 5 And this is the message which we have heard from Him and we are proclaiming to you, that God is light, and in Him there is not one bit of darkness.

Remember what he said in verse 1? He says that which we have seen, that which we have heard, that which we have touched.

Now in verse 5 he says this is some of what we have heard and he begins to share some of the ministry that he had the benefit of in being part of the twelve. “This is the message which we have heard from Him” from Jesus Christ while He was here.

Now we do not have any place in the Scripture where this message is recorded okay. But that does not need to bother you because in John 21:25 he says there are an awful lot of the words of Jesus that were not written down. And so this fits in full accord with what Christ would say so it is a message from Him.

He says “God is light.” When you think of LIGHT in relationship to Scripture always remember that it has a POSITIVE and NEGATIVE aspect to it.

Positively light reveals holiness. It is THE REVEALER OF HIS HOLINESS. You see this in the apostle Paul in Acts 9. A great light shone from Heaven when he opened his eyes he could not even see. He is the revealer of holiness. Many people have had these out of the body experiences and come back again and say something in common that is “we saw a great light.” Certainly light communicates the holiness of God.

But it has a negative side to it and that is when you come into that light you see things as they really are

and we are not comfortable with seeing ourselves as we really are as sinners. So this is a painful message.

Light – the revealer of Holiness.

Light – exposes my sin and condemns it.

Remember that old Fram air filter thing? “See me now or see me later” the old guy in the junkyard where they are hauling the car in that has finally bit the dust. You know it is the same way with God. Isn’t it better and doesn’t it seem more rational that you and I would come to the light and let ourselves be exposed in that light now before we have to do it without any choice and see the record clearly for what it really is?

You know I tremble when I hear people so slovenly and so sloppily excuse things in their lives when it comes to knowing what is going to happen when they no longer have an excuse and it is going to be stripped and we are going to see it in the light.

Psalm 33:10-15

**The Lord foils the plans of the nations;
he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.
But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever,
the purposes of his heart through all generations.
Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,
the people he chose for his inheritance.
From heaven the Lord looks down
and sees all mankind;**

from his dwelling place he watches
all who live on earth--
he who forms the hearts of all,
who considers everything they do.

Hebrews 4:13

All things are naked and open to the eyes of Him
with whom we have to do.

Fyodor Dostoyevsky the Russian writer said, “If God
does not exist, everything is permissible.”

And that is why people today are trying to rule God out
of existence.

The message that John wants to impress upon us is
that “God is light” and that light indicates we are
dealing with a God who is perfect in Holiness. And
because He is perfect in Holiness when that light
shines upon our sinful hearts we no longer can stay in
the darkness.

We read a message like this “God is light” but then we
turn around and we have five responses to the light.
These are human responses to the light. This is the
way people respond to this message. And you can
indicate the positives and the negatives here as you
walk through this but he does not stop there. The last
two verses, chapter 2 verses 1 and 2 in today’s study is
the precious prescription for those who have
committed sin. He is going to deal with it.

So three major points in our message:

- 1. GOD IS LIGHT (verse 5).**
- 2. But the 5-FOLD RESPONSE TO THAT MESSAGE is in verses 6-10.**
- 3. And then the PRECIOUS PRESCRIPTION FOR THOSE WHO HAVE COMMITTED SIN verses 1 and 2 of chapter 2.**

“GOD IS LIGHT, AND IN HIM THERE IS NOT ONE BIT OF DARKNESS.”

LIGHT – a HOLINESS

LIGHT – PURITY

LIGHT – PERFECT RIGHTEOUSNESS

Colossians 1:12, 13 – I love those verses

Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

Okay. Because “GOD IS LIGHT” then I have to say that He knows the innermost part of our hearts. He knows what we thought about today. He knows what we are

like inside that nobody else can see. But we also have to realize that because He is LIGHT that when you come to Him:

He is going to reveal the hidden flaws

He is going to deal with the stains

He is going to deal with the imperfections and

He is going to deal with where we are wrong

You see there are no secrets, everything is visible. All of it lies out there in the open. And maybe that is why we have such a problem with the fact that “GOD IS LIGHT.”

Let me give you just the finish, the conclusion, of the interview with Nicodemus in John 3. Remember those verses?

John 3:19-21

And this is the judgment, [*Jesus says as he brings his little thoughts to a conclusion with Nicodemus*] that the light is come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light; for their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who practices the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God.

There it is! Why do so many Christians want to live in the darkness? Because they just do not want to change. They do not really want to see things as they really are!

You see the normal human tendency is to cover our problems and our inadequacies.

You see we are like that just because we do not want to walk in the light. You see LIGHT speaks of God and all that is good and DARKNESS speaks of the opposite. It speaks of evil. It speaks of all that which is opposed to God.

Martin Luther in that great hymn “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” describes Satan in this way:

**The Prince of Darkness grim,
We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
For lo, his doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him.**

Darkness stands for ignorance apart from Christ. This is that domain of Satan.

If we took DARKNESS, we could describe it in the following ways.

- 1. DARKNESS for IGNORANCE.**
- 2. DARKNESS stands for IMMORALITY.**

Romans 13:12-14

The night is almost gone, and the day is at hand. Let us therefore lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.

Ignorance

Immorality

Oh those two verses I memorized them.

Ephesians 4:18, 19 Boy those are strong verses.

Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life which is in God, through the ignorance which is in them, because of the hardness of their hearts; who being past feeling have given themselves over to lasciviousness, and doing all of that, impurity with greediness.

Boy that is a strong description of our generation. But that is a strong description of some Christians who want to stay in the shadows to play in the dark rather than come out into the light and recognize it.

3. **And then the sad, sad part about DARKNESS is that it is not only ignorance and immorality but it is the DESTINY of those who will continue to live there for eternity.**

Jesus spoke of it more than anybody else.

Matthew 22:13

Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; in that place there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Jude 13b

for whom the black darkness has been reserved forever.

You know we talk about hell as being a painful place but I would rather talk about it as being a place of no presence and no light if you want a picture of the destiny of those who choose to live in darkness.

“GOD IS LIGHT, AND IN HIM THERE IS NOT ONE BIT OF DARKNESS.”

Okay here are the responses that you get to that.

Now this is the KEY VERSE to study number two:

“Fellowship is Broken by Sin”

v. 6 If we say that we are having fellowship with Him and we are walking around in the darkness, we are lying and not doing the truth.

This is walking around in the hypocritical response.

It is profession without possession.

It is saying with my lips something that is not true in my life.

I make profession of fellowship but I do not have the possession of that experience.

Now would you notice that we are dealing with FELLOWSHIP and not relationship. This is a book written to believers. It is a foregone conclusion we are talking about people who have already come into relationship.

And these Christians are saying first response to the light is we are having fellowship with Him but we are walking around in the darkness. We have not been willing to own up to our stuff. We have not been willing to come to the light to see things as they really are – hypocritical response.

Have you ever used an electric weed eater? Man, you just get going like crazy and you have the stuff flying everywhere and things going and all of the sudden it quits. What did you do? You outran the cord. You are no longer plugged in.

You know I just wish that that would happen in the Christian life. I wish fellowship was a weed eater so when you pulled the plug, man, you have something you have to do because that is what happens.

Fellowship is broken, everything shuts down, man.

You are not growing, in fact you are going in reverse and you are getting a callous on your heart and you are getting hardness of the arteries and there is nothing meaningful because you unplugged yourself from the fellowship that is there. You have grieved the Holy Spirit of God by whom you were sealed unto the day of redemption.

You will notice there are 2 things that a person is guilty of:

- 1. HE IS LYING WITH HIS LIPS and**
- 2. HE IS LIVING FALSELY WITH HIS LIFE.**

He is saying he is in fellowship and he is not. And he is living it out falsely in his life.

Okay what happens to a person who is living with unjudged sin in their life? Talk to David:

He was affected EMOTIONALLY

He was affected PHYSICALLY and

He was affected SPIRITUALLY.

Why?

He wanted to COVER that.

He wanted to COMPROMISE.

He was unwilling to pay the price of CHANGE.

And he says:

Psalm 32:3

**When I kept silent,
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
For day and night
your hand was heavy upon me;**

The best thing you can do for the sake of the body of Christ and for our own personal walk with God is when you have sinned, immediately deal with the stuff before the Lord because it is going to affect the VERTICAL relationship and guess what, it is going to affect the HORIZONTAL relationship.

Broken fellowship has great fallout!

Isaiah 5:20, 21

**Woe unto them that call evil good and good evil,
who put darkness for light and light for darkness,
who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. Woe**

**to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever
in their own sight.**

**There it is. Isaiah the prophet described it before it
ever happened.**

**Okay let's say that the Spirit of God has spoken to you
and that you know that you have been saying that you
are in fellowship but you know you are really not.
Okay what are you supposed to do?**

**I would suggest 2 passages from the Psalms that will do
a number on you every time.**

Psalm 26:2, 3

**Test me, O Lord, and try me,
examine my heart and my mind;
for your love is ever before me,
and I walk continually in your truth.**

Psalm 139:23, 24

**Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.**

And then let me give you one from the New Testament.

2 Corinthians 13:5

Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith;
examine yourselves!

And then remember what Paul says to the Corinthian assembly because quite a few of them have died physically? “Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat.” 1 Corinthians 11:28

You know the hymn writer has it right when he prays:

Search me, O God, and know my heart today;
Try me, O Saviour, know my thoughts, I pray;
See if there be some wicked way in me:
Cleanse me from ev’ry sin, and set me free.

First hypocritical, now be honest, verse 7, here comes number two.

v. 7 But if we are walking around in the light as He [Jesus Christ is] Himself is in the light, we are having fellowship one with the other, and the blood of Jesus His Son is cleansing us from every sin.

Okay whereas in verse 6 you have the FALSE with the HYPOCRITICAL RESPONSE.

In verse 7 you got the HONEST RESPONSE TO THE LIGHT.

And I have always interpreted this wrong. You know I

have interpreted this to be “WALKING AROUND IN THE LIGHT” I am having fellowship with you and you with me. That is not the picture. When I am walking around in the light the #1 priority is He and I are having fellowship together, the vertical is alright. Because the vertical is broken in verse 6 but it is okay in verse 7 when I am walking in the light as He is in the light, I am having fellowship with Him, and the blood of Jesus is cleansing me from every sin. So when I am walking in the light this is what is happening. I have fellowship with Him and His blood is cleansing me from every sin.

Okay what does it mean to walk in the light? I believe walking in the light means sincere, specific obedience to the truth of the Scripture. I can pray “test me, O Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind” because I am with a heart that wants to express obedience. And I do not want to just be a hearer of the Word I want to be a doer of the Word. So to walk in light is to be detailed in obedience to the revealed will of God day by day and step by step.

Psalm 89:15

Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,
who walk in the light of your presence, O Lord.

Oh, I love this one!

Proverbs 8:34

**Blessed is the man who listens to me,
watching daily at my doors,
waiting at my doorway.**

Proverbs 4:18

**The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of
dawn,
shining ever brighter till the full light of day.**

**Staying in the light. Wonderful. There is fellowship
with God and there is cleansing from every sin for
doing that.**

**Now, why number two are we having an experience of
being cleansed from every sin? That is a little bit
shocking isn't it? No, it is not because the person who
gets closer to the Lord than the other person is he is
more aware of his sin in life than the other person. For
a guy who is claiming to have fellowship is walking
around in this darkness then he thinks everything is
okay. He is living over here in a world of illusion. But
you come over here and you put yourself under the
mercury vapor light of your heavenly Father and He
starts to show up stuff in your life.**

**You notice the most dynamic, spiritual people in the
Scripture have no problem acknowledging it.**

Paul says in Romans 7:24

O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me

from the body of this death?

That can only come from a man who is walking in the light!

Isaiah chapter 6 when Isaiah sees the Lord high and lifted up, what does he say?

Isaiah 6:5

“Woe is me! For I am undone! I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and mine eyes have seen the king, the Lord of hosts.”

Job 42:6

**Therefore I despise myself
and repent in dust and ashes.**

What is the principle? The closer you get to the light the more you are aware of sin in your life.

What has happened to us? Why do we excuse? Why do we rationalize? Why do we spend so little time talking about the power of the blood of Christ to cleanse us vile, wicked undone sinners? You just do not hear much about the blood of Christ anymore but when you are in the light you thank God for the blood.

Verse 8 third response.

v. 8 If we say that we are not having sin, we are leading ourselves astray, and the truth is not in us.

In verse 6 you have a false response.

In verse 7 you have an honest response.

In verse 8 you have another false response.

Now have you noticed that when you do something wrong there is usually **ONE OF SEVERAL RESPONSES.**

“IF WE SAY THAT WE ARE NOT HAVING SIN, WE ARE LEADING OURSELVES ASTRAY, AND THE TRUTH IS NOT IN US.”

Let me give you some of these.

1. The first response is **DENIAL**. You run into this more than any other single response to accepting responsibility.
2. The second reproach is **DEFENSIVE**. If it is not denial it is defensive.

“Well you made me do it.” You know “if it hadn’t of been for you I never would have done anything like that and it’s your responsibility that I’m like this, that I did this, it just triggered me, that’s all.”

3. And then the third I have called it DETOUR.

This is saying “well let’s just say we did it. You know you did your stuff and I did mine. Let’s just say ‘we.’”

Denial, defensive, detour, never handling the problem and as a result we are living outside the realm of God’s fellowship and blessing on our lives.

Listen to what Stephen Charnock wrote back in the 16th century.

So vile, so odious is sin in the sight of God. It is no light thing, then, to fly in the face of God, to break his eternal law, to dash both the tables in pieces, to trample the transcript of God’s own nature under our feet, to cherish that which is inconsistent with his honour, to lift up our heels against the glory of his nature, to join issue with the devil in stabbing his heart and depriving him of his life. Sin, in every part of it, is an opposition to the holiness of God, and consequently an envying him a being and life as well as a glory. If sin be such a thing, ‘ye that love the Lord hate evil.’

And then he says:

The holiness of God is injured by our unprepared addresses to him, when, like swine, we come into the presence of God with all our mire reeking and steaming upon us.

That is a man who knows the holiness of God. No wonder his great work has outlasted the work of countless other theologians and we are still reading it in the 20th century. That is a man who knew what sin was and what sin does and was no longer going to cover but was going to be willing to deal with it.

Isaiah 53:6

**All we, like sheep, have gone astray,
we have turned everyone to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.**

“THE TRUTH IS NOT IN US.”

Why?

The real truth is:

“All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”

And the Lord desires truth in the inward parts.

v. 9 If we are confessing our sins, faithful is He and just that He should forgive us our sins, and should cleanse us from every unrighteousness.

Right here tucked into the response is another way to handle the problem.

“IF WE ARE CONFESSING” that is in the present tense, it is a choice, ‘OUR SINS’ guess what? Fellowship is going to be instantaneously restored because He is going to “FORGIVE US OUR SINS” and “CLEANSE US FROM EVERY UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.”

Rather than:

DENYING it

DEFENDING it

PRETENDING it

The design is:

OPEN

HONEST

WALKING IN THE LIGHT and

MAKING CONFESSION

of those things that are not pleasing to Him.

Instead of RATIONALIZING it, coming to Him and dealing with it. Saying the same thing about it that God says about it. But we do not do that do we?

“Well that really wasn’t worry, it was just only genuine

concern.”

“That wasn’t anger, it was only righteous indignation.”

“That wasn’t a lustful look, that was only an appreciative glance.”

And so what happens? It goes:

UNJUDGED

UNREBUKED

UNCHECKED

UNCLEANSED

in our lives. And then broken fellowship is the result and we are walking in darkness.

But when we agree with God that it is what it is. We recognize, we have been forgiven and we have been cleansed.

That is Isaiah 1:18 written all over the text.

**“Come now, let us reason together,”
says the Lord.**

**“Though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red as crimson,
they shall be like wool.**

He is ready to deal with that if we will just come and recognize that and deal with it.

You know what the word FORGIVE means? It means to let the pot drop. You know it is just God just letting it go, letting everything flow away because we have come to acknowledge, to confess and we experience forgiveness.

A woman once said to a famous evangelist, “I’m deeply troubled over a problem that I know is hurting my testimony. It’s the practice of exaggeration. I start to tell something, and then go on and enlarge the story until it’s all distorted. People know that what I say is not true, and lose confidence in me. I wonder if you can help me?” The preacher looked at her and said, “Let’s talk to the Lord about it.” She prayed, “O God, Thou knowest that I have this tendency to exaggerate . . .” At this point the evangelist interrupted, “Call it lying, Madam, and you may get over it!” The woman began to weep and finally made a full confession of her evil habit.

That is saying the same thing that God says about it. Dealing with it in His sight and then experiencing wonderful forgiveness.

Micah 7:18, 19

**Who is a God like you,
who pardons sin and forgives the transgression**

of the remnant of his inheritance?
You do not stay angry forever
but delight to show mercy.
You will again have compassion on us;
you will tread our sins underfoot
and hurl all our iniquities into the
depths of the sea.

Oh if we will only come!

But verse 10 is the final response.

v. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we are making Him a liar, and His Word is not in us.

What is the difference between verse 8 and verse 10?

You see in verse 8 we are denying the EXISTENCE of sin.

And in verse 10 we are denying the ACT of sin. We are saying “we did not sin.” We are arguing with God in verse 10.

In verse 8 we are just saying “no big deal, I don’t need a redeemer.” We are denying the existence of it.

Here

“WE ARE MAKING HIM A LIAR, AND HIS WORD IS NOT IN US.”

because He told us that all have sinned.

Proverbs 28:13

He that covers his sin shall not prosper, but whoso confesses and forsakes it shall have mercy.

Leviticus 26:19, 21

I will break down your stubborn pride and make the sky above you like iron and the ground beneath you like bronze.

If you remain hostile toward me and refuse to listen to me, I will multiply your afflictions seven times over, as your sins deserve.

You say “oh that is under the old law.” Listen, that is the same Holy God that you are dealing with in your life as a believer. You can thank God for the grace of God. He did exactly the same thing with the prodigal son in the far country. After all of his resources were gone and he was longing to fill himself with the husks in the pigpen he finally came to his senses and he went home.

Listen, God means business. And if you are sitting here today as a believer excusing sin in your life and you have unjudged sin in your life I can tell you two things are going to happen:

1. You keep on doing it you are going to die physically. I can guarantee you that. We are going to get to that in chapter 5 of this letter.
2. And the second thing that is going to happen you are going to get taken on a whaling expedition and he is going to apply the board of education to the seat of knowledge and you are going to sing the Stars and Strips Forever and you ain't going to like it. Because my Father is a disciplinarian and for you to name the name of Christ and to be his son and his daughter and to rationalize and not deal with sin in your life does a heck of a lot more than just break fellowship. It is a serious matter. And therefore we must deal with it.

Verses 1 and 2 are the precious prescriptions for the problem of sin.

2:v. 1 My little children, these things I am writing to you in order that you may not commit an act of sin. And if anyone commits an act of sin, we are continually having one who pleads our case with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one.

You see “It is not freedom of choice people want so much as license to sin.”

And Satan wants you to remain with broken fellowship and as a believer and not deal with it.

v. 2 And He Himself is satisfaction for our sins; not for ours only but also for the whole world.

He intercedes 24 hours a day before the Father to maintain your fellowship because He is the only mediator. He is the only go-between. But He is also the satisfaction. Do you know what the word is? That is the word for mercy seat. That is where the priests sprinkle the blood on the Day of Atonement on the top of the Ark. That is our Savior reminding the Father of His own blood, He is the “SATISFACTION FOR OUR SINS; NOT FOR OURS ONLY BUT ALSO FOR THE WHOLE WORLD.”

May I conclude my thoughts before I give you the lessons with this little poetic piece?

Upon a life I did not live,
Upon a death I did not die,
Another's life, another's death,
I stake my [whole] eternity.

It is finished, yes indeed,
finished every jot.
Sinner, this is all you need,
Tell me, is it not?

I hear the accuser
Roar of ills that I have done;
I know them well and thousands more,
Jehovah findeth none.

They have all been answered in His blood.

If you died tonight and you were snatched into the presence of the Lord, would you be comfortable about your spiritual condition? Or would it be a painful expose of walking into the light to have something revealed to you that you have been denying and defending for so long? May I give you real, real serious advice? If you are walking in the light you do not have anything to fear. Run to accountability, run to the Lord and let Him bless you.

STUDY NUMBER TWO – 1 JOHN 1:5-2:2

FELLOWSHIP IS BROKEN BY SIN

KEY VERSE 1:6

v. 5 And this is the message which we have heard from Him and we are proclaiming to you, that God is light, and in Him there is not one bit of darkness.

v. 6 If we say that we are having fellowship with Him and we are walking around in the darkness, we are lying and not doing the truth.

v. 7 But if we are walking around in the light as He Himself is in the light, we are having fellowship one with the other, and the blood of Jesus His Son is cleansing us from every sin.

v. 8 If we say that we are not having sin, we are leading ourselves astray, and the truth is not in us.

v. 9 If we are confessing our sins, faithful is He and just that He should forgive us our sins, and should cleanse us from every unrighteousness.

v. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we are making Him a liar, and His Word is not in us.

2:v. 1 My little children, these things I am writing to you in order that you may not commit an act of sin. And if anyone commits an act of sin, we are continually having one who pleads our case with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one.

v. 2 And He Himself is satisfaction for our sins; not for ours only but also for the whole world.

NOTES

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

LESSON #1: God is light and therefore perfect in holiness.

LESSON #2: It is possible to be hypocritical about our fellowship with the Father by continuing to live in sin.

LESSON #3: When we are living in sin, we are lying and not doing the truth.

LESSON #4: When we are walking in the light, we are having fellowship with the Father; and the blood of Jesus His Son is cleansing us from every sin.

LESSON #5: When we are living in denial, we are leading ourselves astray and the truth is not in us.

LESSON #6: To confess our sins is to say the same thing about them that God says about them.

LESSON #7: When we say we have not sinned, we are making God a liar and His Word is not in us.

LESSON #8: When we sin, the Lord Jesus pleads our case before God the Father on the basis of His shed blood.

LESSON #9: He has paid the full price for our sins in His blood.

LESSON #10: Sins past, present, and future have been cared for by Calvary's cross.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 1 John 1:5-2:2 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does it mean that “God is light, and in Him there is not one bit of darkness”?

3. What is the meaning of “walking around in the darkness” in verse 6?

4. When we are “walking around in the light,” according to verse 7, what two things result?

5. In verses 8, 9, & 10, there are three attitudes which we can have about sin. What are these three attitudes, and what must a Christian do to maintain fellowship with the Lord?

6. What are the results of “confessing our sins,” according to verse 9?

7. What provisions has the Father made, according to chapter 2:11, for our sins?

8. How adequate is the sacrifice of Christ upon the cross for sin, according to verse 2?

9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?
