

RESPECTABLE SINS

Confronting the Sins we Tolerate

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“This book, as the title announces, is about sin -- not the obvious sins of our culture but the subtle sins of believers, the target audience of this book.” --Jerry Bridges

“The motivation for this book stems from a growing conviction that those of us whom I call conservative evangelicals may have become so preoccupied with some of the major sins of society around us that we have lost sight of the need to deal with our own more ‘refined’ or subtle sins.” --Jerry Bridges

REVIEWING OUR POSITION

- We are _____!
- We are set apart _____ God. This is the positive side of separation.
- We are set apart _____ sin and the world. This is the negative side of separation.

FACING THE PROBLEM OF OUR SIN

- Ever since the fall of man through the sin of Adam and Eve, man has been plagued by the problem of sin.
- Through the Lord Jesus Christ and His sacrifice upon the Cross of Calvary, God made a way for the problem of sin to be conquered.
- It is only as we yield our members as instruments of righteousness and crucify our flesh allowing the new life of Christ to reign in us that we can know the victory that Christ secured. (Romans 6:11-14; Gal :2:20; 1 Cor 15:57)

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF SIN

“The very word, ‘sin,’ which seems to have disappeared, was once a proud word. It was once a strong word, an ominous and serious word...But the word went away. It has almost disappeared--the word, along with the notion.”

[psychiatrist Karl Menninger, *What Became of Sin?*]

“on the whole, we appear to be more concerned about the sins of society than we are the sins of the saints.”

“often indulge in what I call the ‘respectable’ or even ‘acceptable’ sins without any sense of sin.”

How do we fight against this tendency?

- We must Define Sin Scripturally.
- We cannot Defend our Sin Selfishly.

Sin Defined Scripturally

- Sin is the B _____ of God’s Law. (James 2:8-11)
- Sin is the D _____ of God’s Law. (1 John 3:4)
- Sin is the F _____ to Meet God’s Exacting Standard. (Galatians 3:10)
- Sin is SIN and Sin is S _____.

THE MALIGNANCY OF SIN

- “Sin is a spiritual and _____ malignancy.”
- “If I gossip, I both tear down another person and _____ the mind of my listener. If I complain about the difficult circumstances of my life, I impugn the sovereignty and _____ of God and tempt my listener to the same.”
- “Sin is a principle or _____ force in our heart...a diabolical force within us.”

Our Failure to Recognize Sin

- We recognize how evil the sins of our society are, but we fail to accept that our “respectable sins” are just as diabolical.
- Sin is _____ against God
- Sin is an outright assault upon a holy God; upon His majesty and sovereign rule. It is cosmic _____.

When we sin, we ... (2 Samuel 12:9-10)

- Despise the W _____ of God.
- Despise God H _____.

Sin is a Presumption on God’s Grace. *Will we tolerate any sin for which the Saviour Died?*

FACE THE TRUTH: SIN IS A PROBLEM