

Loris First Baptist Church
“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”

Doctrine #29 – Salvation From the Power of Sin

Note: Most information based on pages 189-196 of the book “Major Bible Themes” by Lewis Sperry Chaffer.

Deliverance From Sin for Christians Only

1. Since salvation from the “power” of sin is God’s gracious provision for those whom He has already “saved from” the guilt and “penalty” of sin, this doctrine in its application is limited to “Christians”.
2. Though saved and safe in Christ, Christians still have the disposition to sin, and do sin.
 - a. To these facts both Scripture and human experience give abundant proof.
 - b. Based upon the fact that Christians sin, the New Testament proceeds to explain the divinely provided way of deliverance.
3. Supposing that a Christian would neither sin nor be disposed to sin, many young believers are confused and alarmed—even doubting their own salvation—when they discover the reigning power of sin in their lives.
4. Well may they be alarmed at sin, for it outrages the holiness of God; but in place of doubt as to salvation or yielding to the practice of sin, they should learn God’s gracious provisions whereby there is deliverance.
5. Next to the way of salvation, there is no more important theme to be mastered by the human mind than the divine plan whereby a Christian may live to the glory of God.
 - a. Ignorance and error may result in tragic spiritual failure.
 - b. As in the preaching of the Gospel, there is great need for accuracy in the statement of the scriptural doctrine of salvation from the power of sin.

The Problem of Sin in the Life of a Christian

1. Having received the divine nature (2 Peter 1:4) while still retaining the old nature, every child of God possesses two natures:
 - a. One nature (called the “new nature”) is incapable of “sinning”, and
 - b. The other nature (called the “old nature”) is incapable of “holiness”.

2. The old nature, sometimes called “sin” (meaning the source of sin) and “the old man,” is a part of the “flesh”.

NOTE: In scriptural usage, the term “flesh,” when used in a moral sense, refers to the spirit and soul as well as the body—especially of the unregenerate man.

Romans 7:18 (NKJV) *“For I know that in me (that is, IN MY FLESH) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.”*

Romans 7:18 (NIV) *“I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, IN MY SINFUL NATURE. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.”*

3. The new nature, sometimes called the “divine nature” and “the new man” is something that is “imparted” to a believer in Jesus Christ the moment that person places their faith in Him as their Lord and Savior.

2Peter 1:4 *“Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate IN THE DIVINE NATURE and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.”*

1John 3:9 *“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.”*

- a. This passage teaches that every Christian, being born of God, does not “practice” sin, or “keep on” sinning. (The verb is in the present tense implying *continuous* action.)
- b. However, it should be observed that in this same epistle John also warns every child of God against claiming that he has no “sin nature”, or that he has “not sinned”.

1John 1:8 *“If we claim to be WITHOUT SIN (i.e. “without a Sin Nature”), we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.”*

1John 1:10 *“If we claim WE HAVE NOT SINNED, we make Him out to be a liar and His word has no place in our lives.”*

4. These two sources of action in the believer are again considered in Galatians 5:17, where both the Holy Spirit and the flesh are seen constantly to be active and in unceasing conflict:

Galatians 5:17 (NKJV) *“For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.”*

Galatians 5:17 (NIV) *“For THE SINFUL NATURE desires what is contrary to THE SPIRIT (i.e. “which works through the new divine nature”), and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. THEY ARE IN CONFLICT WITH EACH OTHER, so that you do not do what you want.”*

- a. A “carnal” (also called “worldly”) Christian is identified in Scripture as a saved “believer” who is giving in to the “lusts of the flesh” (i.e. “desires of the sinful nature”) and “grieving” the Holy Spirit (i.e. “resisting the desires of the divine nature within him”).

1Corinthians 3:1-3 (NKJV) “*And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people BUT AS TO CARNAL, as to babes in Christ. I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; for you are still CARNAL. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, ARE YOU NOT CARNAL and behaving like mere men?”*

1Corinthians 3:1-3 (NIV) “*Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual BUT AS WORLDLY—mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still WORLDLY. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, ARE YOU NOT WORLDLY? Are you not acting like mere men?”*

Ephesians 4:30-31 “*And DO NOT GRIEVE the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. GET RID OF ALL bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.*”

- b. A “spiritual” Christian is one in whom a conflict “continuously” exists within him between the “sin nature” and the “divine nature”, but he is being delivered from the lust of the flesh, because he is walking in “dependence” upon the Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18 “*Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT.”*

Romans 8:1 (KJV) “*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, WHO WALK NOT AFTER THE FLESH, BUT AFTER THE SPIRIT.”*

Law as a Rule of Life

1. In understanding God’s program for deliverance from the power of sin, it is important to distinguish between “law” and “grace” as rules of life.
2. The word “law” is used in many different senses in Scripture.
 - a. Sometimes it is used as a “rule of life”. When used in this way, the word has various meanings.
 - 1) The Ten Commandments, which were written by the finger of God on tables of stone.

Exodus 31:18 “*When the Lord finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, He gave him the two tablets of the Testimony, the tablets of stone INSCRIBED BY THE FINGER OF GOD.”*

- 2) The whole system of government for Israel when in the land which included the commandments (Exodus 20:1-26), the judgments (Exodus 21:1—24:11), and the ordinances (Exodus 24:12—31:18).

- 3) The governing principles of the yet future kingdom of the Messiah in the earth, which are said to be the fulfilling of the Law and the Prophets (Matt. 5:1-7:29; note 5:17-18; 7:12).

Matthew 5:17-18 *"Do not think that I have come to abolish THE LAW OR THE PROPHETS; I have not come to abolish them BUT TO FULFILL THEM. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law UNTIL EVERYTHING IS ACCOMPLISHED."*

Matthew 7:12 *"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS."*

- 4) Any aspect of the revealed will of God for men.

Romans 7:22 *"For in my inner being I delight in God's law..."*

Romans 8:4 *"in order that THE RIGHTEOUS REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW MIGHT BE FULLY MET IN US, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit."*

- 5) Any rule of conduct prescribed by men for their own government.

Matthew 20:15 *"Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?"*

Luke 20:22 *"IS IT LAWFUL for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"*

2 Timothy 2:5 *"Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes ACCORDING TO THE RULES."*

The word "law" is also used a few times of a "force" in operation:

Romans 7:21 *"So I find THIS LAW at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me."*

Romans 8:1-2 *"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus THE LAW of the Spirit of life set me free from THE LAW of sin and death."*

- 6) In the Old Testament especially, law is also presented as a "conditional covenant" of "works".
- a) Under this conception of the law, its scope is extended beyond the actual writings of the Mosaic system and the kingdom law, and it includes any human action which is attempted (whether in conformity to a precept of the Scriptures or not) with a view to "securing favor" with God.
 - b) The law formula is "If you will do good, I will bless you."

- c) Thus the highest ideal of heavenly conduct—if undertaken with a view to securing favor with God instead of being undertaken because one has already secured favor through Christ—becomes purely legal in its character.
- 7) Law is also introduced as a principle of dependence on the flesh.
- a) The law provided no enablement for its observance.
 - b) No more was expected or secured in return from its commands than the natural man in his environment could provide.
 - c) Therefore, whatever is undertaken in the “energy of the flesh” is legal in its nature, whether it be the whole revealed will of God, the actual written commandments contained in the law, the exhortations of grace, or any spiritual activity whatsoever.

Grace as a Rule of Life

1. For the child of God under grace, every aspect of the law is now “done away”, because of the finished work of Jesus Christ to “fulfill” the righteous requirements of the law on behalf of the believer in Him.

John 1:16-17 *“From the fullness of His GRACE we have all received one blessing after another. For THE LAW was given through Moses; GRACE and truth came through Jesus Christ.”*

Romans 6:14 *“For sin shall not be your master, because you are NOT UNDER LAW, BUT UNDER GRACE.”*

Romans 7:1-6 *“Do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to men who know the law—that the law has authority over a man only as long as he lives? For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage. So then, if she marries another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress, even though she marries another man. So, my brothers, YOU ALSO DIED TO THE LAW through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. But now, by dying to what once bound us, WE HAVE BEEN RELEASED FROM THE LAW so that we serve in THE NEW WAY OF THE SPIRIT, and not in the old way of the written code.”*

2 Corinthians 3:6 *“He has made us competent as ministers of A NEW COVENANT—not of the letter but of the Spirit; FOR THE LETTER KILLS, BUT THE SPIRIT GIVES LIFE.”*

Galatians 3:19-25 “What, then, was the purpose of the law? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was put into effect through angels by a mediator. A mediator, however, does not represent just one party; but God is one. Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given **THAT COULD IMPART LIFE**, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, **MIGHT BE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE**. Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. SO THE LAW WAS PUT IN CHARGE TO LEAD US TO CHRIST THAT WE MIGHT BE JUSTIFIED BY FAITH. Now that faith has come, **WE ARE NO LONGER UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE LAW.**”

Ephesians 2:14-15 “For He Himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, BY ABOLISHING IN HIS FLESH THE LAW WITH ITS COMMANDMENTS AND REGULATIONS.”

Colossians 2:13-14 “When you were **DEAD IN YOUR SINS** and in the uncircumcision of your **SINFUL NATURE**, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, HAVING CANCELED THE WRITTEN CODE, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; HE TOOK IT AWAY, NAILING IT TO THE CROSS.”

- a. The legal commands of the Mosaic system and the commands which are to govern in the kingdom are NOT NOW the guiding principles of the Christian.
- b. They have been superseded by a new and gracious rule of conduct which includes in itself all that is vital in the law, but restates it under the peculiar order and character of grace.
- c. The child of God under grace has been delivered from the burden of a covenant of works. He is NOT NOW striving to be accepted, but rather is “free” to live as one who is “accepted” in Christ.

Ephesians 1:4-6 “For **HE CHOSE US IN HIM** before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. **IN LOVE** He predestined us to be **ADOPTED AS SONS** through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will—TO THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORIOUS GRACE, which HE HAS FREELY GIVEN US in the One He loves.”

- d. The child of God is NOT NOW called upon to live by the energy of his “own flesh”.
 - 1) He has been delivered from this feature of the law and may live in the power of the indwelling Spirit.
 - 2) Since the written law was addressed to Israel, she alone could be delivered from the written commandments of Moses by the death of Christ.
 - 3) However, both Jew and Gentile were delivered by that death from the hopeless principle of human merit and from the useless struggle of the flesh.

- e. In contrast with law, the word “grace” refers to the unmerited favor which represents the divine method of dealing with man that was introduced with Adam.
 - 1) Under grace, God does not treat men as they deserve, but He treats them in infinite mercy and grace without reference to their desserts.
 - 2) This He is free to do on the ground that the righteous punishment for sin, which His holiness would otherwise impose upon sinners as their just dessert, was borne for the sinner by the Son of God.
 - 3) Although the people of Israel experienced the grace of God in many ways, as a rule of life they passed from a grace relationship to God to a law relationship to God.
 - 4) When they accepted the law as recorded in Exodus 19:3-25, they foolishly “presumed” that they would be able to keep the law of God through ignorance of their need of grace as the only possible basis of being accepted before God.
 - 5) The experience of Israel under the law, accordingly, demonstrates to all men the “impossibility” of being delivered from the power of sin by “the law” of works.
2. In contrast with law, grace is revealed in three different aspects: a) Salvation by grace, b) Safekeeping through grace, and c) Grace as a rule of life for the saved.
 - a. God saves sinners by “grace”, and there is no other way of salvation offered to men.

Ephesians 2:8-9 *“FOR IT IS BY GRACE THAT YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED, BY FAITH—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—NOT BY WORKS, so that no one can boast.”*

Acts 4:12 *“SALVATION IS FOUND IN NO ONE ELSE, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which WE MUST BE SAVED.”*

- 1) Saving grace is the limitless, unrestrained love of God for the lost acting in compliance with the exact and unchangeable demands of His own righteousness through the sacrificial death of Christ.
- 2) Grace is more than love; it is love set free and made to be a triumphant victor over the righteous judgments of God against the sinner.
- 3) When He saves a sinner by grace, it is necessary that God shall deal with every sin, for they would otherwise demand judgment and thus hinder His grace. This He has wrought in the death of His Son.
- 4) It is also necessary that every obligation shall be canceled, and to this end salvation has been made an absolute “gift” from God.

John 10:28 *“I GIVE them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.”*

Romans 6:23 *“For the wages of sin is death, BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Ephesians 2:8-9 *“For it is by grace that we have been saved, by faith—and this not from yourselves, IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD...”*

- 5) Likewise, it is necessary that every human merit shall be “set aside”, lest the thing which God accomplishes be in any measure based on the merit of men and not on His sovereign grace “alone”.

Romans 3:9 *“What shall we conclude then? Are we any better? Not at all! We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike ARE ALL UNDER SIN.”*

Romans 11:32 *“For God has bound all men over to disobedience SO THAT HE MAY HAVE MERCY ON THEM ALL.”*

- 6) Since every human element is “excluded”, the gospel of grace is the proclamation of the mighty, redeeming, transforming grace of God, which offers eternal life and eternal glory to all who will “believe”.

Galatians 3:22 *“But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that what was PROMISED, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, MIGHT BE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE.”*

- b. The divine program of “safekeeping” through grace demonstrates that through grace alone God “keeps” those who are saved.
 - 1) Having provided a way whereby He can act in freedom from His own righteous demands against sin, having disposed of every human obligation for payment, and having set aside eternally every human merit, God has only to continue the exercise of grace toward the saved one to “secure” his safekeeping “forever”.

1Thessalonians 5:23-24 *“MAY GOD HIMSELF, the God of peace, SANCTIFY YOU through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body BE KEPT BLAMELESS at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful AND HE WILL DO IT.”*

- 2) This He does, and the child of God is said to stand in grace.

Romans 5:1-2 *“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith INTO THIS GRACE IN WHICH WE NOW STAND...”*

1 Peter 5:12 *“With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. STAND FAST IN IT.”*

- c. God provides also a “rule of life” for the saved based on the grace principle.
- 1) God teaches those who are saved and kept how they should live in grace and how they may live to His eternal glory.
 - 2) As the law provided a complete rule of conduct for Israel, so God has provided a complete rule of conduct for the Christian.
 - 3) Since all rules of life which are presented in the Bible are complete in themselves, it is not necessary that they be combined.
 - 4) Therefore the child of God is not under law as a rule of life, but he is under the counsels of grace.
 - 5) What he does under grace is not done to “secure” the favor of God, but it is done because he is already accepted in the Beloved.
 - 6) It is not undertaken in the energy of the flesh, but it is the outliving and manifestation of the power of the indwelling Spirit.
 - 7) It is a life which is lived on the principle of faith: “The righteous shall live by faith.” These principles are stated in portions of the gospels and the epistles.

Habakkuk 2:4b “...but THE RIGHTEOUS WILL LIVE BY FAITH..”

Romans 1:17 “For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness THAT IS BY FAITH from first to last, just as it is written: ‘THE RIGHTEOUS WILL LIVE BY FAITH.’”

The Only Way of Victory

Various teachings are suggested which attempt to secure deliverance for the Christian from the power of sin.

1. It is claimed that the Christian will be compelled to live to the glory of God if he observes sufficient “rules”. This law principle is doomed “to fail” because it depends upon the very “flesh” from which deliverance is sought.

Romans 6:14 “For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.”

2. It is widely claimed that the Christian may seek and secure the eradication of the old nature, being thus “permanently free” from the power of sin. There are objections to this theory.
 - a. There is no Scripture upon which the theory of eradication may be based.

- b. The old nature is a part of the flesh and will naturally be dealt with as God deals with the flesh.
 - 1) The flesh is one of the Christian's mighty foes—the world, the flesh, and the devil.
 - 2) God does not eradicate the world, or the flesh, or the devil; but He provides victory over these by His spirit.

Galatians 5:16 *"So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature."*

1 John 4:4 *"You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world."*

1 John 5:4 *"for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith."*

- 3) In like manner, He provides victory over the old nature by the Spirit.

Romans 8:2 *"because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life SET ME FREE FROM the law of sin and death."*

- c. No actual human experience confirms the theory of eradication, and were that theory true, parents of this class would give birth to unfallen children.
 - d. Likewise, when this theory is accepted, there remains no place for, and no meaning to, the ministry of the "indwelling Spirit". On the contrary, the most spiritual Christians are warned concerning the necessity of walking by the Spirit, reckoning, yielding, not letting sin reign, putting off, mortifying, and abiding.
3. Some Christians suppose that, apart from the Spirit and simply because they are saved, they can live to the glory of God.
- a. In Romans 7:15—8:4 the apostle records his own experience with this theory.
 - 1) He states that he knew what was good, but he did not know how to perform what he knew.

Romans 7:18 *"I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, BUT I CANNOT CARRY IT OUT."*

- 2) He therefore concluded that:
 - a) At his best he was always defeated because of an ever-present law of sin in his members warring against his mind:

Romans 7:22-23 *"For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, WAGING WAR AGAINST THE LAW OF MY MIND and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members."*

b) Such an estate is wretched:

Romans 7:24 "WHAT A WRETCHED MAN THAT I AM! Who will rescue me from this body of death?"

c) Though he was saved, the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus made him free, and NOT his own works:

Romans 8:2 "*because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.*"

d) The whole will of God is fulfilled IN the believer, but never fulfilled BY the believer:

Romans 8:4 "*in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met IN US, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.*"

b. In Romans 7:25 it is stated that deliverance from the power of sin is "THROUGH"—NOT "BY"—Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 7:25 "*Thanks be to God—THROUGH Jesus Christ our Lord!*"

- 1) Since a problem related to the holiness of God is involved, deliverance can only be through Jesus Christ.
- 2) The Holy Spirit could not take control of an unjudged fallen nature; but it is stated in Romans 6:1-10 that the believer's fallen nature has been judged by cocrucifixion, co-death, and co-burial with Christ, making it morally possible for the indwelling Holy Spirit to give victory.
- 3) Under these provisions, the believer may walk in the power of a new life principle which is by dependence upon the Spirit alone, and he should reckon himself to be DEAD INDEED UNTO SIN.

Romans 6:4 "*We were therefore buried with him through baptism INTO DEATH in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, WE TOO MAY LIVE A NEW LIFE.*"

Romans 6:11 "*In the same way, COUNT YOURSELVES DEAD TO SIN but alive to God in Christ Jesus.*"

4. Thus it is that "deliverance" from the "power" of sin is by the Spirit through Christ.

Victory by the Holy Spirit

1. As brought out in the previous studies in the doctrine of the Holy Spirit, a Christian can be delivered from the power of sin by the Holy Spirit. (review Galatians 5:16 above)
2. Salvation from the power of sin, like salvation from the penalty of sin, is of God and depends, on the human side, upon an attitude of faith—as salvation from the penalty of sin depends on an act of faith.

3. The justified one shall live by faith—faith which depends on the power of another—and the justified one will never know a time in this life when he will need to depend less on the Spirit.
4. There are three reasons for a life of dependence on the indwelling Spirit.
 - a. Under the teachings of grace, a believer faces an impossible heavenly standard of life.

- 1) Being a citizen of heaven

Philippians 3:20 “BUT OUR CITIZENSHIP IS IN HEAVEN. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ...”

- 2) Being a member of the body of Christ

Ephesians 5:30 “for we are members of HIS BODY.”

- 3) And being a member of the household and family of God

Ephesians 2:19 “Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and MEMBERS OF GOD’S HOUSEHOLD...”

Ephesians 3:14-15 “For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom HIS WHOLE FAMILY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH derives its name.”

- 4) The child of God is called upon to act in accordance with his heavenly position.
- 5) Since this is a superhuman manner of life, the child of God MUST DEPEND upon the indwelling Spirit.

Some of the Superhuman Requirements of the Christian Life

John 13:34 “A new command I give you: Love one another. AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, so you must love one another.”

2 Corinthians 10:5 “WE DEMOLISH ARGUMENTS and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and WE TAKE CAPTIVE EVERY THOUGHT to make it obedient to Christ.”

Ephesians 4:1-3 “As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to LIVE A LIFE WORTHY OF THE CALLING YOU HAVE RECEIVED. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”

Ephesians 4:30 “And DO NOT GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”

Ephesians 5:20 “ALWAYS GIVING THANKS to God the Father FOR EVERYTHING, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-17 "BE JOYFUL ALWAYS, PRAY CONTINUALLY..."

1 Peter 2:9 "*But you are A CHOSEN PEOPLE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that YOU MAY DECLARE THE PRAISES OF HIM who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.*"

What Do God's Children Need to Meet the Requirements of the Christian Life?

Romans 8:4 "*in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature BUT ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT.*"

b. The Christian faces Satan—the world-ruling foe. Because of this, he must be “strong in the Lord”:

Ephesians 6:10-12 "*Finally, BE STRONG IN THE LORD and in His mighty power.*"

1 John 4:4 "*You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, BECAUSE THE ONE WHO IS IN YOU IS GREATER THAN the one who is in the world.*"

Jude 9 "*But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him, but said, “THE LORD REBUKE YOU!”*"

c. The Christian possesses the old nature which he is powerless to control.

Romans 7:18 "*I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, IN MY SINFUL NATURE. For I have the desire to do what is good, BUT I CANNOT CARRY IT OUT.*"

Ephesians 2:21-24 "*if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: THAT YOU PUT OFF, concerning your former conduct, THE OLD MAN which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that YOU PUT ON THE NEW MAN which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.*"

Final Thoughts

1. Scriptural revelation, accordingly, reveals not only that God saves from the guilt of sin, but is also able to deliver from the “power” of sin through the help provided by the indwelling Spirit given to every believer in the finished work of Jesus Christ.
2. Ultimately, when the Christian ultimately stands “complete” in heaven, he will be delivered from the “presence” of sin.

Loris First Baptist Church
"52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible"

Doctrine # 29 - "Salvation From the Power of Sin"

1. Read Pages 1-13 from the Doctrine#29 Study Guide by next Wednesday.
2. Answer the following Questions about "Salvation" as you read:

a. Deliverance From Sin For Christians Only

- 1) True or False. God's gracious provision of saving a person from the "power" of sin in their lives is provided for ONLY those who are already "Christians". (page 1, top)

- 2) True or False. One of the "proofs" of truly being saved, is that a new believer now has been "born again" so that he cannot and will not choose to sin. (page 1, top)

- 3) What usually happens to "new" believers when they do sin if they have not been properly taught about the biblical doctrine of freedom from the power of sin? (page 1, middle)

- 4) Next to the way of Salvation, there is no more important biblical theme to be mastered by a new believer's human mind than "what"? (page 1, middle)

b. The Problem of Sin in the Life of a Christian

- 1) How many "natures" does a "born again" Christian possess according to the Scriptures? Describe them. (page 1, bottom)

- 2) What are at least “3” other terms used in the Bible to speak about the “old nature”?
(page 2, top; see also Romans 7:18)

- 3) How and when does a believer get “the divine nature” (i.e. “the new man”)?
(page 2, top; 2Peter 1:4; 1John 3:9)

- 4) True or False. According to 1John 3:9, it is impossible for a “born again” believer to ever sin again.

- 5) According to 1John 1:8, what is John saying about a person if that person claims he no longer has a “sin nature” and he does NOT sin against God anymore?

- 6) According to Galatians 5:17, what is happening inside the “heart” (i.e. “soul”) of a true Christian?

- 7) Describe what a “carnal” Christian is. (page 3, top; see also 1Cor 3:1-3 and Ephesians 4:30-31)

- 8) Describe what a “spiritual” Christian is. (page 3, middle; see also Ephesians 5:18 and Romans 8:1)

c. Law as a Rule of Life

- 1) To understand God’s program for deliverance from the “power” of sin, it is important to distinguish between what things as “rules” of life? (page 3, bottom)

- 2) In the Old Testament, “the law” is presented as “what” to the Israelites? (page 4, bottom)
- 3) What is the “law formula”? (page 4, bottom)
- 4) True or False. Although the Law gave demands and commands that were to be followed in order for God to bless the Israelites, the Law did not provide any “enablement” for its observance. Therefore, any attempts to obey it through “energy of the flesh” became a practice of “legalism” without any benefits of grace or help of the Holy Spirit. (page 4, top)

d. Grace as A Rule of Life

- 1) Why is every aspect of “the law” now “done away” with for the child of God who is under “grace”? (page 5, middle; John 1:16-17; Romans 6:14, 7:1-6; 2Corinthians 3:6; Galatians 3:19-25)
- 2) True or False. Once a Gentile becomes a “believer” in Jesus Christ, he needs to familiarize himself with the Mosaic law because now he is to use them as guiding principles in his Christian walk and begin to learn to live as orthodox Jews do. (page 6, middle)
- 3) The child of God is “NOT NOW” called upon to live by “what”? (page 6, bottom)
- 4) On the death of Jesus Christ on the cross, what were “both” Jew and Gentiles delivered from? (page 6, bottom)

- 5) In contrast with “law”, which requires man to “earn” God’s favor, the word “grace” refers to what?
(page 7, top)

- 6) Under “grace”, God does not treat men as they deserve, but He treats them “how”? (page 7, top)

- 7) When the Israelites accepted the law as recorded in Exodus 19:3-25, they foolishly “presumed” what?
(page 7, top-middle)

- 8) What did the experience of Israel under the law, accordingly, demonstrate to all men? (pg. 7, middle)

- 9) What are the “three” aspects of God’s grace that are revealed in the Scriptures? (page 7, middle)

- 10) What is a good definition of “saving grace”? (page 7, bottom)

- 11) True or False. When a “sinner” is saved by God by “grace”, it is no longer necessary for God to deal with any more of the sins of the sinner, because He ignores a saved person’s sins. (page 7, bottom)

- 12) According to John 10:28, Romans 6:23, and Ephesians 2:8-9, what is “the” gift of God for sinners who place their faith in Jesus Christ?

- 13) When it comes to “salvation” of a sinner according to the Scriptures, what is it necessary to absolutely “set aside” in order to be saved by “grace”? (page 8, top; see also Romans 3:9, 11:32)

- 14) The divine program of “safekeeping” through “grace” demonstrates “what”? (page 8, middle)

- 15) According to 1Thessalonians 5:23-24, Paul encourages the Thessalonian Christians to have their whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Who did Paul expect to do this for them?

- 16) The child of God is not under “law” as a rule of life, but he is under “what” as a rule of life? (page 8, top)

- 17) What a child of God does under grace is not done to “secure” the favor of God, but done for what reason? (page 8, top-middle)

- 18) According to Habakkuk 2:4 and Romans 1:17, how are the children of God to live in Christ?

f. The Only Way of Victory

- 1) Some pastors teach their congregations that the Christian will be compelled to live to the glory of God if he “observes” sufficient “rules” (many that they make up themselves!). Why is this “law” principal, after being saved by “grace”, doomed to “fail”? (page 9, bottom; see Romans 6:14)

- 2) True or False. If a Christian wants to be “permanently free” from the power of sin in their life, then they need to learn how to “eradicate” their sin nature from mature Christians who have already learned how to do this important spiritual accomplishment.
(page 9, bottom thru page 10, top)

- 3) According to Galatians 5:16, how can you resist being forced to “gratify” the desires of the sinful nature?

- 4) According to Romans 8:2, what does the “law of the Spirit of life” do for the Christian?

- 5) True or False. According to Paul’s own experiences as detailed in Romans 7:15-8:4, a Christian is incapable of resisting sin and living to the Glory of God apart from the help of the indwelling Spirit and God’s grace as provided through faith in Jesus Christ.
(page 10, bottom thru page 11, top)

- 6) True or False. According to Romans 7:25, deliverance from the “power of sin” is accomplished for the believer “by” Jesus Christ. (page 11, middle)

- 7) The Holy Spirit cannot take control of an “unjudged” fallen human nature. What makes it morally possible for the indwelling Holy Spirit to give victory to a Christian’s fallen human nature?
(page 11, middle; Romans 6:1-10)

- 8) What is something that it is important for a “believer” to do in order to be free from the power of sin in their life so that they can be controlled by the Spirit? (page 11, bottom; Romans 6:4, 11)

- 9) In summary, how is a Christian ultimately delivered from the “power” of sin in their life?
(page 11, bottom)

g. Victory by the Holy Spirit

- 1) Salvation from the “power of sin”, like salvation from the “penalty” of sin, is of God and depends on “what”? (page 11, bottom)
- 2) What are the three reasons that a Christian’s life totally depends on the indwelling Spirit?
(page 12 thru page 13; hint: look at a, b, and c!)
- 3) What are some of the superhuman requirements of the Christian life?
(John 13:34; 2Cor 10:5; Ephesians 4:1-3, 30, 5:20; 1Thessalonians 5:16-17; 1Peter 2:9)
- 4) What does a child of God need to do to meet the requirements of the Christian life?
(page 13, top; see Romans 8:4)
- 5) True or False. With the right training and biblical knowledge, a new Christian can become a mature Christian and take complete control over his “old nature” and walk daily without the temptation of sin in his life. (page 13, bottom; Romans 7:18; Ephesians 2:21-24)
- 6) When will a Christian be “free” from the “presence” of sin? (page 13, bottom)