

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Eddy Dickinson

Opening Prayer: Al Corkren

On the Table: Head - Greg Lowery
Servers - Gary Addison
Lannie Key
Ralph Burleson

Closing Prayer: Billy Box

Preparing the Lord's Supper Amelia Key

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study	10:00 am
Morning Worship	10:45 am
Evening Worship	5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study	7:00 pm
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Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Deacon: Al Corkren
Leonard Key / David Key
Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson Minister: Greg Lowery

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What Sin Can Do



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



“Little” Sins, “Big” Sins and Full Grown Sins

By Dan Jenkins

Sometimes we mistakenly think of the magnitude of sins in a wrong way. We talk of “little” sins as being those which really do not “count” because they seem so innocent when compared to major blunders which only the most ungodly do. The Catholic Church even has the same view of sins which are characterized as venial and mortal sins.

When one has this mindset, he struggles to figure out how eating fruit from a tree in the Garden of Eden could be so wrong. How could such an “innocent” act be compared to the sin mentioned in in the next chapter where a brother kills his own brother? Surely, murder must be a greater sin than eating fruit.

The same mindset struggles to deal with the “little” sin Saul committed in First Samuel chapter thirteen. Saul had been king for only one year when he was confronted by the Philistine army which had 30,000 chariots and 6,000 horsemen. Saul’s army had only 3,000 soldiers. The prophet Samuel told the king that he would come to the battlefield and make sacrifices to God to seek His blessing in the conflict. For some unknown reason, Samuel was delayed, and Saul’s army was about to flee even before the battle was begun. He knew he could never defeat the Philistines without the Lord’s help and, though he was not a priest, he went ahead and offered the sacrifice. How could such be wrong? If it was a sin, it had to be a “little” one. Yet God did not see it this way. Saul’s “little” sin caused the kingdom to be taken from the lineage of Saul. Our view of “little” and “big” sins is often so wrong.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Billy Box: undergoing therapy for recent hip replacement surgery, please be praying that he can have a quick and full recovery

Faye Cotton: has stopped taking treatments for now; please be praying that she will regain her strength and defeat this cancer

Denise Kimbrell: receiving chemo treatments; please be praying that with these treatments this cancer will not return

Mary Eddy: she is recovering from knee surgery, please be praying that the she makes a full and quick recovery

Lellie Dickinson: is recovering from knee surgery and torn ligaments in her knee, please be praying for a full and quick recovery

Barbara Wilkinson: still having problem with infection on her feet, please pray that the medicine she is taking will cure this infection

Bill Foster: is at home under hospice care, please be praying for him and his family

Danielle Taylor: recovering from recent spinal surgery, please pray that she makes a full recovery

Danny Harbin: recently diagnosed with prostate cancer, please keep him in your prayers

Mable Weeks: is at home, please pray that she can regain her strength, and continue her fight against cancer

Barb Lemay: friend of Christie & Aaron, from the Midway congregation – she has advanced colon cancer; please be praying that treatments will help

Dean Key: is fighting a case of shingles, let us be praying that with medicine that the shingles will quickly clear up and that she will have no further trouble

Upcoming Events

May 7 th	Country Place {Devotional}	2:00 pm
May 14 th	Nursing Home {Winfield}	2:00 pm

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Sandy McCaleb: has started cancer treatments, please be praying that this cancer can be treated and defeated

Edward Skinner: has been recently diagnosed with cancer, please pray that this cancer will be treatable

Lucas Dunnigan: leukemia cells are showing signs of growth, please pray that the doctors will be able to treat this successfully

Deborah Box: did find a small blood clot, please be praying that medicine will take care of this clot and there will be no further problems

Kay Dodd: has started treatments and will take them through November, please be praying that the treatments will defeat this cancer

Samuel Walker: having some heart problems, please be praying that he will receive help for this problems

Judd Tucker: recovering from a collapsed lung, please pray that he makes a full recovery and that there will be no more problems

Don Lawrence: is recovering from recent procedure to clear blockage in his carotid artery, let us pray that he will have no further problems

Rebert Corkren: diagnosed with lung cancer, please be praying that he will receive the help needed defeat this cancer

While the Bible does not use these words to describe sin, it does speak of “full grown” sins (Jas. 1:15). This verse describes the enticement of sin and the entrance into sin as the birth of sin. However, sin does not remain a “baby” sin. If it is not dealt with, it grows and grows in our lives. We often fail to realize that any sin can become an addiction. Peter described this process when he talked about Christians escaping the pollution of sin through following Christ but then are again “...entangled therein and overcome” (2 Pet. 2:20). Sin has remarkable power, and when we have waited until it grows we sometimes leave the Lord.

Joseph was enticed by Potiphar’s wife. He ran! Had he stayed he might have fallen into the bondage of sin. David was tempted and did not run! Look at the ruin such brought to his life and family.

“Little” sins may seem rather innocent when we are first enticed by them, but yielding to “little sins” from a heart set on ignoring God opens the door to the bondage of sin. When you sin, repent. Do not let it become full grown!

Obtained at: www.churchofchristarticles.com

One Sin is Serious

By Robert Notgrass

One does not have to have every disease known to man to die because just one disease can kill. It is not necessary for one to have a thousand heart attacks knowing that just one can kill a man. A criminal does not need to break all the laws in order to find himself in jail, one violation can lead to punishment. Therefore, since we are able to see consequences like this in the physical world, why is it that we cannot see them in the spiritual?

Sin often starts out small but does not remain small for very long. A “little” sin can produce the same result as a “big” sin. James said that, “. . . sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death” (James 1:15). What about just one sin? Well, if sin is sin and it brings forth death, how many sins does it take? The apostle Paul tells us that, “the wages of sin is death . . .” (Romans 6:23). Therefore, just one sin that is unrepented of and unforgiven brings separation (death). The Old Testament warns man that, “. . . the soul that sinneth, it shall die” (Ezekiel 18:4, 20). Therefore, HOW MANY SINS MUST ONE COMMIT IN ORDER TO BE SEPARATED FROM GOD? Can we conclude to say that, “One will be enough?”

Now, it is quite easy to recognize that sins in abundance are destructive. The world prior to the flood was filled with wickedness. The abundant sinfulness of the antediluvian world led to God’s decision to destroy man (Genesis 6:5-7). The “exceeding wickedness” of the people of Sodom brought about the destruction of the city (Genesis 13:13; 18:20). The many backslidings and iniquities of the Israelites testified against them (Jeremiah 14:7). When one reads the catalogue of Israel’s sins recorded in 1 Corinthians 10:5-11, is it any wonder that Jehovah God was not well pleased with them? We must realize that sin is just as destructive today and man ought to be alert to the danger.

In addition, the seriousness of one sin is a recurring theme of the Bible. The transgression of Adam and Eve in the Garden was not to be overlooked by God as “just one little sin.” It was given proper and appropriate punishment and its effect has been felt by man down through the centuries. The record of the man who violated the Sabbath law (Numbers 15) gives further testimony to the way God looks at failure and one failure in the life of an individual. For, punishment for the one sin was death by stoning with the sentence given by God himself with all the congregation as executioners.

Now, could we be so relaxed today that we forget about the sentencing by God because of our sin? Do we not know that Solomon said, “. . . one sinner destroyeth much good” (Ecclesiastes 9:18)? I mean, look what happened to two sinners according to Leviticus 10:1-3. The sons of Aaron had the right incense, the proper desire, they were the right men, in the right place, at the right time, with the right utensils, but there was one wrong: the strange fire which the Lord commanded them not. Is there any wonder that when they were being consumed with fire, that their own father spoke not a word about it to God?? Do we not realize that they were punished for doing one wrong and their father held his peace because he understood the seriousness of one sin?

Examples could be multiplied as proof of the truth being emphasized. Moses testifies that one sin is serious and can keep a man out of the promised land (Numbers 20:10-12). Achan acknowledges that one sin in the camp can cause victory to be withheld till it is properly punished (Joshua 7). Judas would never say that “one little sin” is not so bad. The apostle Peter had the fact impressed upon him that the one sin of denial was an awful transgression. In the early church, it is revealed that God disapproves of one sin as evidenced in the case of Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5). So, why have we become so use to sin and the compromising of Truth that we do nothing about sin when it is being practiced all around us? Are we really scared of losing our friends, family or Christians because we may stand in front of them trying to help them see the error of their ways? Is pacifism really the answer or do we not know that **JUST ONE SIN CAN KEEP YOU OUT OF HEAVEN?** You know, it is amazing to note that when discipline was given it did not tear the church up, but apparently influenced its growth in numbers (Acts 5:11, 14).

It is true that God will forgive a multitude of sins (Isaiah 1:18). It is likewise true that a person guilty of one sin stands in need of forgiveness (James. 2:10). Paul told Timothy, “Them that sin rebuke before all” (1 Timothy 5:20). We might wonder how many sins one would have to commit before a rebuke would be in order. Non are sinless, it is true (1 John 1:8). Yet, to have forgiveness through the blood of Christ, we must confess our sins and comply with the conditions of pardon (1 John 1:9; Acts 8:22). Otherwise, that one sin may just keep us from Heaven. Are you serious enough to correct your sin?

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