

The Perfect Solution

Introduction:

- A. We cannot completely stop sinning.
- B. We continually struggle with sin in our lives.
- C. Paul declared the harder he fought evil in his life the more evil he uncovered. (Romans 7)
- D. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ.

I. God's solution for evil in our lives (2 Corinthians 5)

- A. Our earthly body is only a tent. (v. 1-5)
 - 1. We live our daily lives by faith. (v. 7-10)
 - 2. We live by faith and not by fear. (v. 11-19)
 - 3. We are filled with profound respect that comes from the awe of God.
 - 4. Our lives are controlled by Christ's love for us
- B. We must accept reconciliation as God made Jesus to be sin for us so we can become righteous (v.20-21)
- C. God took Jesus who was completely sinless and made Jesus to be sin for us.
 - 1. God allowed the collective sin of all men to be placed on the sinless body of Jesus Christ.
 - 2. God withdrew from Jesus when Jesus accepted the sin of all men.
 - 3. Jesus experienced the ultimate human weakness and defeat by dying separated from God
- D. Is this speculation on our part?
 - 1. Peter stated "He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you are healed." (1 Peter 2:24)
 - 2. When we are baptized our sins are atoned. (Galatians 3: 26-27)

II. Sin continues to be a problem in our lives even after baptism.

- A. John reveals that God is the light and in him there is no darkness. (1 John 1:5-10)
- B. If we have fellowship with God while we are not baptized we are deceiving ourselves.
- C. We must live in the light that comes from God. (1 John 1:7)
- D. We must confess our sins to God so he will forgive us and cleanse us. (1 John 1:8-9)
- E. After baptism we must be honest with God and confess our sins to be cleansed.
- F. We cannot be perfect, but we can be honest with God and accept responsibility for our sins.

Conclusion: When you are baptized into Christ, your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in the righteousness of Jesus Christ, who will forgive you all your sins.