

Results of Sin
By Trey Sullins

The Almighty God has no darkness at all (1 John 1:5). He is light and even sent His light into the world so that we might know of Him. “And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe” (John 1:5-7). The light of the world is Jesus Christ and He brought to this world the wisdom, will, and commandments of God. People are expected to serve and obey God, but when they do not it is called sin. Sin means to miss the mark and to transgress the law of God (1 John 3:4). Beyond breaking the law, 1 John 1:5-10 also explains some of the results that happen whenever a person choose sin in their lives.

Sin separates a person from God. If “God is light and in Him is no darkness at all” then someone who sins can not be one with God. This is confirmed by the very next verse which says, “If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth” (1 John 1:6). The Holy Spirit makes it plain that someone who does not walk in the light is a liar and has no fellowship with God. There is an important pattern laid out here that one who walks in light has God and one who walks in darkness does not have God. This pattern is stated more directly in 2 John 9: “Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.” Separation from God leads to death and therefore should be avoided by all creation at all costs!

Sin leads to deception. First John 1:6 states that someone who claims fellowship with God, but practices sin is a liar. First John 1:8 says, “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.” Self-deception is often a common result of sin. If you began asking people if they were going to heaven, likely everyone would say yes. This is because everyone wants to feel like they are living right. However, when continued sin is allowed in a person’s life, eventually they become callused and desensitized to it. After this happens people begin to justify and overlook their own sins for the sake of feeling right with God. Second Corinthians 4:3-4 says, “But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.” The “god of this age” is a reference to Satan. This passage explains that by bringing sin and evil into people’s lives, Satan causes them to be blinded to the truth and light of God. When this happens, they will never see the sin they need to fix in their lives.

Although the passage in 1 John 1:5-10 shows many warnings, it also provides the answer these problems. In 1 John 1:7 the Bible says, “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” The way that Christians avoid being separated from God and deceiving themselves into destruction is by walking in the path of Christ! Jesus Christ brought us the word of God so that we might be able to live the righteous life, exactly as God has prescribed. To be righteous mankind must be obedient (1 Peter 2:21) and get out and stay out of sin (1 John 1:9). Another amazing thing about God’s plan is that when people walk in the light the Bible explains that nothing can come between Christians and God (Romans 8:38-39).

The commands of God are truly a powerfully important thing. By being obedient to them people have the ability to be in fellowship with the creator of the universe. These commands are so important because sin, which comes by not following them, can separate man from God and bring a deceptive hope that leads to destruction. The responsibility of choosing to be righteous is in the hands of each and every person. Let all Christians choose to follow the pattern set forward in the gospel of Jesus Christ and be righteous always! When Christians do this then an inheritance awaits them in heaven (Colossians 1:12).