

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
Pastor: Pastor Dwight Benoit
Sunday School Superintendent: Ordained Minister Samuel O. Simon
Assistant Superintendent: Deacon Jordan Benoit
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www.magnoliambc.org

Theme Unit: Enduring Beliefs of the Church

Unit II: Grace and Reconciliation

Subject: The Wrong Path

Printed Text: 1 John 1: 5-10; 2: 1-6

Key verse: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1: 8-9, KJV).

Lesson Pointers:

- 1) Inconsistent Walk (1 John 1: 5-7)
- 2) Inconsistent Talk (1 John 1: 8-10)
- 3) A Compatible Solution (1 John 2: 1-6)

Introduction:

Every one of us has an enemy, someone or something that opposes, threatens, or, even seeks to cause one harm. When we think about the things that opposes us, and how they produce conflicts, that are realities in many areas of our lives. Like conflicts in our physical body's that opposes our health, and causes our health to decline; such, things like cancer, heart attacks, strokes, high blood pressure, diabetes, these are all opposing forces. But humanity's greatest opposing force or enemy is sin; why? Because sin first separates us from GOD by creating a barrier between us and GOD; this is what causes us to sin, and leads us to spiritual death. Secondly sin corrupts us, enslaves us, and leads us to destruction. But there is Good News; GOD, provided the very remedy for this enemy (sin), by sending HIS only begotten SON, Jesus Christ, to pay our sin's price by taking our punishment, and dying on the Cross, shedding HIS blood for the remission of our sins. Now, know and understand, that, GOD did this to offer salvation to all who will believe in HIS SON, Jesus Christ. One can not defeat sin on their own; one can only have victory over sin through the Holy Spirit help; who seals us, and enables us, to have a relationship with GOD. Then one can walk in the light, because of the fellowship and relationship with GOD, who is light (Read 1 John 1: 5). So, as believers in Jesus Christ, we must actually live what we claim to believe, this is the most convincing evidence that GOD has transformed our lives, and that we belong to HIM (GOD). Therefore, know that, when we sin, know that we have an advocate, and HIS name is Jesus Christ, who intercedes on our behalf to GOD the Father, and who forgives us, and cleanse us continually from all unrighteousness when we repent and confess our sin (Read 1 John 1: 9).

Lesson Pointer # 1:

- **Inconsistent Walk (1 John 1: 5-7)**

John begins this chapter by affirming what he had personally heard, seen, and touched, concerning the LORD Jesus Christ and HIS ministry. Why? Because false teachers had infiltrated the church, denying the reality of Jesus Christ's incarnation. So, John responded by contesting their deception and gave reassurance to his readers that they could have a personal relationship and fellowship with Jesus Christ who he had seen and heard. John shared the foundational truth that he received directly from Jesus Christ incarnate: that GOD is light, holy, pure, and entirely without sin. Knowing this, is, having true fellowship with Jesus Christ; for GOD is light, and Jesus Christ is GOD, and in HIM is no darkness at all (1 John 1: 5). Since we have fellowship with Jesus Christ as HIS disciples, we are not to walk in darkness, for if we do, we lie, and do not

the truth (1 John 1: 6). Now, if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, GOD the Fathers SON, cleanseth us from all sin (1 John 1: 7). So, we are to walk in the path of the light of Jesus Christ, and do not walk in darkness, which is the wrong path, but rather stay on the path that leads to Jesus Christ.

Lesson Pointer # 2

- **Inconsistent Talk (1 John 1: 8-10)**

A necessary confession is needed because of the difference between people who say that they know GOD but keep on living in sin. You see our sin and us, is to think that we the person is not the problem but that sin is the problem, so, we deceive our selves by thinking that we do not sin, and the truth is not in us (1 John 1: 8). But the truth is that, “all have sinned and come short of the glory of GOD (Romans 3: 23).” When we confess our sins (repent), turn to GOD with evidence, we demonstrate genuine fellowship with GOD, and receive GOD’S faithful forgiveness and cleansing. “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1: 9). When we deny the truth of our present and past sins we are denying our sinful history. This denial goes against GOD’S Word and shows a heart that has not accepted GOD’S truth. “If we say that we have not sinned, we make him (GOD) a liar, and his (GOD’S) word is not in us (1 John 1: 10).” The message is clear that John gives unto us: we must acknowledge sin’s presence, agree with GOD through confession, and holding on to HIS (GOD’S) Word to maintain an authentic fellowship and relationship with GOD.

The Wrong Path!

Lesson Pointer # 3

- **A Compatible Solution (1 John 2: 1-6)**

Our sin and GOD; an Obedient walk, with proof of knowledge of GOD. It is a fact that we all sin and come short of the glory of GOD; no one is exempt. So, if you say that you do not sin, you are deceiving yourselves; is not being honest with yourselves, and with GOD. But John gives us the assures that if, or, since we sin, we have someone who speaks to GOD the Father on our behalf, Jesus Christ, who is the righteous One (1 John 2: 1). Jesus Christ is our go between, our advocate, the atoning sacrifice for our sins, the only one whose sacrificial death for the whole world is sufficient payment for our sin debt of unbelief that separated us from GOD (1 John 2: 2). Our obedient walk with GOD, and HIS commandments, determines whether our salvation experience guides us, or, leads us to know GOD intimately (1 John 2: 3). Now, to know GOD, and not to keep GOD’S commandments, we make ourselves a liar, and the truth is not in us (1 John 2: 4). But he that keeps GOD’S commandments, His Word, the love of GOD is in him and perfect; and they know that they are in HIM (GOD), (1 John 2: 5). So, if (since) we say that GOD abides in us, are we not to walk, even as he (Jesus Christ) walked (1 John 2: 6). The solution for avoiding the wrong path is to obey GOD’S Word, and to live our life as Jesus Christ lived by walking as HE walked in this world. All ways remember to start with the solution (Jesus Christ), and not the problem, and the problem is solved, even if it does not go away.

Nuggets of the Lesson:

- 1) Truth: GOD is light, Holy, Pure, and entirely without sin.
- 2) It is necessary to confess (repent) of your sins; for GOD is faithful and just to forgive you of your sins, and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness.
- 3) If (Since) we say that we do not sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. For all have sinned and come short of the glory of GOD.
- 4) Our obedient walk with GOD, and HIS commandments, determines whether our salvation experience guides us, or, leads us to know GOD intimately.
- 5) So, if (since) we say that GOD abides in us, are we not to walk, even as he (Jesus Christ) walked.