

## Dead to Sin, Alive to God Pt 4

### Romans 6:1–6

Romans 6:1–6 (NKJV)

**6** What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup> Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? <sup>3</sup> Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness* of *His* resurrection, <sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

## Introduction:

<sup>4</sup> Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, **even so we also should walk in newness of life.**

<sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our **old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.**

<sup>11</sup> Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be **dead indeed to sin,** but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore **do not let sin reign in your mortal body,** that you should obey it in its lusts.

There are some christians and some who are not Christians who have taken statement in these verses and others to teach that who can overcome sin in an absolute way.

In other words the adopt a position of sinless perfection or perfectionism and some refer to it as the irradiation of sin nature.

The belief is that when you are saved, you will be freed from sin and you will no longer sin.

They will say, that they no longer sin willfully, or that it is not a sin but rather a mistake.

The say reality is that in order to believe this, you have to redefine sin, or you have to redefine the law or both.

RC Sproul stated,

‘Inevitably the error of perfectionism breeds one, or usually two, deadly delusions. To convince ourselves that we have achieved sinlessness, we must either suffer from a radical overestimation of our moral performance or we must seriously underestimate the requirements of God’s law. The irony of perfectionism is this: Though it seeks to distance itself from antinomianism, it relentlessly and inevitably comes full circle to the same error

To believe that we are sinless we must annul the standards of God’s Law. We must reduce the level of divine righteousness to the level of our own performance. We must lie to ourselves both about the Law of God and about our own obedience. To do that requires that we quench the Spirit when He seeks to

convict us of sin. Persons who do that are not so much Spirit-filled as they are Spirit-quenchers.”

The Heresy of Perfectionism

FROM R.C. Sproul May 10, 2013 Category: Articles

*Most who affirm this position state in these terms*

*The Perfectionism is defined terms of  
Willful and Unwillful sins*

*RC Sproul”*

*“What in the world is an unwillful sin? All sin involves the exercise of the will. If an action happens apart from the will it is not a moral action. The involuntary beating of my heart is not a moral action. All sin is willful. Indeed, the corrupt inclination of the will is of the very essence of sin. There is no sin without the willing of sin. ( They would say) The sin just sort of “happened.”*

*It was the oldest self-justification known to man: “I didn’t mean to do it!”*

The Heresy of Perfectionism

FROM R.C. Sproul May 10, 2013 Category: Articles

*Sins that are not moral but rather mistakes or ignorance.*

*This is a redefining of sin. Sin is not longer willful acts against God’s law but rather bad choices or happen chance of mistakes.*

*Sin is like making a right turn when we should have turned left.*

*This is an assault on the Word of God, the Character of God, the law of God, and the Biblical definition of sin and Holiness.*

*Some of the other verses that are used to support Perfectionism are:*

*First notice with me one of the foundational passages of Perfectionism*

### **Ephesians 4:11–13 (NKJV)**

<sup>11</sup> And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> for the equipping (Perfecting) of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

It is believed that God intends perfection for the saints, A real tangible, practicable perfection.

he word translated “mature” in [Ephesians 4:13](#) is the Greek word *teleios*. It is used throughout the New

Testament to mean “perfect,” “complete,” “full-grown,” and “mature.

### **Colossians 1:27–28** (NKJV)

<sup>27</sup> To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup> Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man **perfect** in Christ Jesus.

### **Colossians 4:12** (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> Epaphras, who is *one* of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand **perfect** and complete in all the will of God.

*In both verses, the Greek word for perfect should be understood to mean “mature” or “full-grown,” not “having no sin.”*

### **Matthew 5:48** (NKJV)

<sup>48</sup> **Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.**

### **1 John 3:4–9** (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> Whoever **commits sin** also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup> And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup> Whoever abides in Him **does not sin. Whoever sins (Pres Part.)** has neither seen Him nor known Him.

<sup>7</sup> Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. <sup>8</sup> **He who sins** is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. <sup>9</sup> Whoever has been born of God **does not sin**, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

*So on the surface it would seem that we have a solid case for sinless perfection.*

### **1. Jesus taught us to confess our sins daily.**

Matthew 6:9-12 “**Pray, then, in this way:** ‘Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ‘Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. ‘Give us this day our daily bread. ‘**And forgive us our debts**, as we also have forgiven our debtors.’”

## 2. When we say that we have no sin we make God a liar.

1 John 1:7-10 “but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 **If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.** 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 **If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar** and His word is not in us.”

Psalm 66:18 “If I had **not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.**”

## We are not perfect.

Romans 3:10-12 As it is written: “There is no one righteous, **not even one**; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.”

Psalm 143:2 “Do not bring **your servant** into judgment, for **no one living is righteous before you.**”

Ecclesiastes 7:20 “Indeed, **there is not a righteous man on earth** who continually does good and who never sins.”



Proverbs 20:9 “Who can say, “I have kept my heart pure; I am clean and without sin?”

## **Godly Christians know their sinfulness.**

Paul called himself a “chief of sinners.” He didn’t say I was a chief of sinners. He emphasized his sinfulness because he understood his sinfulness in the light of Christ.

1 Timothy 1:15 “This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.” πρῶτος.

Luke 5:8 “When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!”

## **Romans 7 destroys sinless perfectionism.**

Romans 7:15-25 “For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. 16 Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. 17 So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. 18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. 19 For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. 21 So I find it to be a law that

when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. 22 For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being,

Unbelievers don't delight in God's law.

In fact, when we read Psalm 1:2; Psalm 119:47; and Psalm 119:16 we see that **only believers are delighting in God's law.**

23 but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. 24 Wretched man that I am! **Who will deliver me from this body of death?** 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.”

Galatians 5:16-17 “But I say, **walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.** 17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for **these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.**”

### **Sinless perfectionism denies sanctification.**

Entire sanctification or Christian perfectionism is a damnable heresy. Once someone is justified by faith in Christ, then comes the sanctification process. God is

going to conform the believer into the image of His Son. God is going to work in that believer's life until death.

If sinless perfectionism is true, then there is no reason for God to work in us and it contradicts various Scriptures. Even Paul addressed believers as carnal Christians. I am not saying a believer will remain carnal, which is not true. A believer will grow, but the fact that he calls believers carnal Christians destroys this false doctrine.

1 Corinthians 3:1-3 “But I, (brothers), could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, 3 for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?”

2 Peter 3:18 “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”

Philippians 1:6 “And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”

Romans 12:1-2 “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by

testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

**James says, “we all stumble in many ways.”**

James 3 is a good chapter to take a look at. In verse 2 it reads, “we all stumble in many ways.” It doesn’t say some, it doesn’t say only unbelievers, it says, “**we all**.” There are a million ways to stumble before the holiness of God. I sin before I get out of bed. I wake up and I don’t give God the proper glory that is rightfully His. James 3:8 says, “no human being can tame the tongue.” **None!**

Many people don’t notice how they sin with their mouth. Engaging in gossip, talking about things of the world, complaining, joking in an ungodly way, making a joke at someone’s expense, making a rude comment, telling a half truth, saying a curse word, etc. These all fall short of doing all things for God’s glory, loving God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and loving your neighbor as yourself.

James 3:2 “We **all stumble in many ways**. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.”

James 3:8 “but **no human being can tame the tongue**. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.”

Psalms 130:3 “LORD, if you **kept a record of our sins, who, O Lord, could ever survive?**”

# We do sin

## That is why we need Christ

1 John 2:1 “My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. (But) if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.”

Sinless Perfectionism  
Fritz Chery Nov 11, 2018