

Series: Family Fellowship  
"The Truth about Sin" Pt. 2, # 4  
1 John 1:9-2:2  
4-29-18 AM

1. We saw last week that we can't claim fellowship with God and walk in sin as a pattern [v. 6].
2. Today, John encourages us not to sin, but if we do, forgiveness is available.

**SS Joke-** "Can anyone tell me what you must do before you can be forgiven of Sin?  
Boy replied "sin."

John tells us that some deny the indwelling presence and practice of sin. Some actually think they don't sin once saved, thinking they reached perfection and just need to focus on God's grace and not confession of sin, repentance, and holiness.

**TT:** This morning we answer the question, "What do believers do with our sins?" We are introduced to three 3 key doctrines that answer the question-

### **I. Confession [1:9].**

*What does confession mean?*

To confess sin means to say the same thing about your sin that God says about it. Sin is defined as coming short of the glory of God and missing the mark. Sin is disobedience to the Word and will of God. Sin in its essence is rebellion to God in an attempt to take his place.

*When should we confess our sins?*

Confession should be definite, made to God, and immediate. Some say the Greek tense means "we are confessing."

We should keep short accounts with God. Confession of sin is an ongoing work of sanctification.

There is initial forgiveness and temporal forgiveness. Salvation forgiveness and sanctifying forgiveness. There is judicial forgiveness and parental forgiveness.

### **II. Advocate [2:1].**

*What does Advocate mean?*

When we sin we have an **accuser** who accuses us [Rev. 12:10], but we also have an **advocate-**

One called alongside to plead and intercede for us, a defender or counselor who comes to aid his client. He is our helper and defense lawyer.

The Holy Spirit, the comforter convicts us of sin on earth, and when we confess that sin, our comforter in heaven pleads our case.

We have an intercessor at the cross, in our hearts, and in heaven.

Jesus is our Advocate because He atoned for our sin. He atoned for our sins because He is righteous, sinless, and undefiled.

*Notice where our advocate is?*

“With the Father.” If we commit sin He is still our Father.

### **III. Propitiation [2:2; 4:10; Rom. 3:25].**

*Propitiation* in the O.T was the “mercy seat.” where the blood was applied for the people’s sins by the High Priest yearly.

Christ is the mercy seat in the N.T whose death on the cross satisfied or appeased God’s offended holiness and justice by the substitute of His Son paying the penalty of our sin as our sacrifice as the last Adam.

Religion has the worshipper required to make appeasement to their gods. In Christianity, God made the appeasement.

*What does the whole world mean?*

Generic term referring not to each individual but mankind in general [people groups]. So, this does not mean universal salvation but salvation for those who would believe.

Christ’s death has the power to save the world but is purposed for those who would believe. It is sufficient for all to be saved, but effectual for only those who believe.

**Rev. 5:9**, And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

*What does all this mean to us?*

1. The penalty of sin was taken away at judicial forgiveness but we confess our sins for parental forgiveness. If God has forgiven our sins past, present, and future- why confess? To experience full joy, reward, testimony, usefulness, and fellowship.

2. His propitiation took care of our sin at salvation and made possible his advocacy in taking care of sins after salvation.

3. Unless we believe, we are left to pay the penalty of our sins by ourselves. Jesus is the only way we can be forgiven.

4. Remember, our Advocate is with the Father, and grieve not the Holy Spirit whereby you are sealed [Eph. 4:30]. He is your Father at salvation, and he is still your Father when you sin.

So far we have seen two tests of genuine salvation:

1. A Biblical view of Jesus Christ (1:1-4).
2. A Biblical view of sin (1:5-2:2).

**Next Week-** we see three more tests- obedience, transformed life, and love.