

Where Does Sin Come From?

~ 10 facts that lead the child of God to a conclusion and a determination ~
1st John 3:4-9

Fact #1 – “Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness,” (3:4a)

- The subject: all who [presently] are doing sin
 - These people are [presently] doing lawlessness.
- sin (*hamartia*) – a fault, a failure, a missing of the mark; falling short of a standard
- lawlessness (*anomia*) – iniquity, lawlessness; an action which comes from an attitude that resents God’s moral demands on your life

Explanation – “and sin is lawlessness” (3:4b)

- The point: There is no good or permissible way to describe sin.

Fact #2 – “And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins,” (3:5a)

- The subject: Jesus Christ
- Why did He come as a man? He appeared (the first time) to take away our sins.
- The point: Jesus does not want you to have sin.

Fact #3 – “and [you know that] in Him there is no sin.” (3:5b)

- The subject: Jesus Christ
- What is He like? Sinless perfection.
- The point: Jesus cannot produce sin in your life.

Fact #4 – “Whoever abides in Him does not sin.” (3:6a)

- The subject: all who [presently] are abiding in Jesus Christ
 - These people are not [presently] sinning.
- The point: Abiding in Him never causes anyone to sin.

Fact #5 – “Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.” (3:6b)

- The subject: all who [presently] are doing sin.
 - These people have not come to see Jesus clearly enough.
- The point: The presence of sin reveals that a person’s actions did not come as a result of fellowship with God.

Address & Exhortation – “Little children, let no one deceive you.” (3:7a)

Fact #6 – “He who practices righteousness is righteous.” (3:7a)

- The subject: the one who is [presently] doing righteousness
 - This person is [presently] righteous (in a practical sense).

Explanation – “just as He is righteous.” (3:7b)

- The point: The presence of righteousness reveals that a person’s actions did come as a result of fellowship with Jesus Christ who is absolutely righteous.

Fact #7 – “He who sins is of the devil,” (3:8a)

- The subject: the one who is [presently] sinning.
 - This person is [presently] acting devilishly (in a practical sense).

Explanation – “for the devil has sinned from the beginning.” (3:8b)

- The point: The presence of sin reveals that a person’s actions from the ultimate source of sin, who is the devil.

Fact # 8 – “For this purpose the Son of God was manifested: that He might destroy the works of the devil.” (3:8c)

- The subject: Jesus Christ
- Why did He come as a man? To destroy the works of the father of sin.
- The point: To sin in any way is to fight against the purpose of God.

Fact #9 – “Whoever has been born of God does not sin,” (3:9a)

- The subject: all who have become children of God
 - These people do not sin (or else they will not resemble their father).

Explanation – “for His seed remains in him;” (3:9b)

- The point: God’s plan for each of His offspring is for them to abide Him and enjoy being purified; while abiding in Him (which is always God’s plan), we will not sin.

Fact #10 – “and he cannot sin,” (3:9c)

- The subject: all who have become children of God (assuming the same subject as 3:9a)
 - These people cannot sin (by nature)

Explanation – “because he has been born of God.” (3:9d)

- The point: The child of God must remember that the identity of your father matters.
-

Conclusion & Determination