

The Christian Life – Part 3

Coming to Christ and Walking in Christ

Acts 2:36-47; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 10-25-20

The Conviction of Sin

³⁶Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.” ³⁷Now when they heard *this*, **they were pierced to the heart**, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?”

- ▶ The conviction of sin has given way to the comfort of indulgence and the crusade of victimhood.
- ▶ The conviction of sin takes place in the light of the truth.
- ▶ The conviction of sin exposes our rejection of God.
- ▶ The conviction of sin produces a desire to be free from our sin.
- ▶ The conviction of sin prepares and points us to Christ.

The Rejection of God

What sin do we need to be convicted of?

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The sin of *rejecting* God (which manifests itself in a million ways and, if not repented of, results in being rejected by God!):

If we reject God, He will reject us.
If we receive God, He will receive us.

We reject God *by* rejecting ‘His Word.’ Both:

The Living Word (Jesus) and
The Written Word of God (Bible)

We reject God *because* we believe ‘the Lie’:

‘Happiness is found apart from God.’
‘Our happiness cannot be found in trusting and obeying God.’

We would have done what the Jews did to Jesus in the first century (apart from grace)! (Hebrews 6:6; 10:29) Peter proclaimed that they had crucified the Jesus who is both Lord (God) and Christ (Savior)! They rejected God and sinned against Perfect Love. (And so have we!) How did they do that? (And how do we do that?)

1. Jesus was God in the flesh and they rejected Him. – Matthew 21:42; Mark 8:31; Luke 17:25; 1 Peter 2:4-7; Luke 10:16

1st Commandment: You shall have no other gods before Me. – Exodus 20:3

We reject God as revealed in Jesus when we refuse to trust and obey Him alone. – Numbers 11:19-20; 1 Samuel 8:7; Luke 18:18-27

2. Jesus revealed the Father, the one true God, and they hated what they saw! – John 15:24-25; Luke 21:17; John 15:18, 23; Jeremiah 2:9-13

2nd Commandment: ⁴ “You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, ⁶ but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. –Exodus 20:4-6

We reject God as revealed in Jesus (hatred) when we want Him to be different than He is. – Luke 19:14; Matthew 6:24

3. Jesus was called insane, a drunkard and a glutton, and a demon. – Luke 7:34; Mark 3:22-30; John 7:20; 8:48-49, 52; 10:20

3rd Commandment: You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain. – Exodus 20:7

We reject God as revealed in Jesus (dishonor) when we do not hope in His love. - Psalm 33:18, 22; 130:7; Daniel 3:16-18; Psalm 13:5; 52:8; 143:8

4. Jesus is the fulfillment of the Sabbath and they refused to rest in Him. – Matthew 12:2, 8, 10; John 5:18; 9:16

4th Commandment: ⁸ “Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and made it holy. – Exodus 20:8-11

We reject God as revealed in Jesus when we do not rest in His provision. – Matthew 11:28-30; Hebrews 4:1-10; Numbers 15:30-36; Proverbs 21:2

Good News: Jesus is an able and willing Savior for sinners and all who turn from sin and trust in Jesus will be saved!