1 December 2023 Sin not, Christian!

1 John 2:1-2: "My little children, these things I write unto you
that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with
the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous. And He is the
propitiation for our sins: and not ours only, but also for the
sins of the whole world."

For every believer here this morning, one of the most important commands for you and me to obey each day of our earthly lives are (2) words found in our text: "SIN NOT". Yes, we are still clothed in a body of sin, yes, we still have the old man to contend with and kill, and yes, we still fall into sin...... But let it never be that you sin intentionally, let it not be that you KNOW you are going to sin against God, and yet, you DO IT ANYWAY!

Christ "saved us from our sins", but what does it say about our salvation if we continue to sin like we did before we were saved?

Well, you know, we're still going to sin! But when you THINK like that, and SAY things like that as a Christian, it communicates a "diluted, powerless, and compromised" Christianity!

I am not saying that we don't sin, but when our THINKING is, "Well, we're going to sin", we are surrendering ourselves to sin, and that is NOT the language of the Holy Scriptures, and it doesn't represent what genuine salvation from sin is!

If that is what we think and say, what are we saying about the power of God in our salvation? Don't you THINK differently NOW about sin than in your past? Haven't your desires changed? Hasn't God given you and me the grace and strength to resist and mortify sin?

The Apostle John was not teaching us that we can live the Christian life free of sin or free from a sin nature, nor sinless perfectionism, we see numerous examples in the Word of believers who sinned. 1 John 1:5-10

There will never be a day in your earthly life when you will not need this passage! We cannot say that we have no sin, and we cannot say that we have not sinned, but let us never be content with the thought, well, we're just going to sin!

If there is no difference between YOU Christian and lost sinners regarding sin, then where is the power of God and the power of the death of Christ on the cross in your salvation from sin?

There is a massive difference between the lost and the saved! A Christian SHOULD and WILL LIVE as one who is SAVED/FREED FROM their sins!

If you're saved you should/will continue to repent of your sins, turn from your sins, you will hate your sins, acknowledge your sins, be convicted when you do sin because you've sinned against God, and you will humbly confess your sins to God! Psalm 51, David's confession!

The lost continue to live in their sins and rebellion against God. They are under the reign and dominion of sin, the lost indulge themselves in their sins, they do not turn from their sins, they do not view sin as that bad, and therefore they do NOT see sin as exceedingly sinful! The lost will not acknowledge TO GOD that they have sinned against Him and His Holy Law and rebelled against His gospel call!

Sin reigns in the sinner, grace reigns in the righteous! When God saved you, Christian, He made you different, you are a new creation in Christ! He didn't leave you in the same condition as when you were lost and dead in your sins!

This massive difference between you Christian and the lost should be notable and obvious IN YOU.....That sin no longer reigns in you, you no longer indulge yourself in sin, you hate your sins, and when you do sin, you run back to the cross, you repent, and confess your sins to God!

"SIN NOT" child of God, is the language and command of God from the scriptures to each of us, it should be the consistent desire and language of our souls!

Psalm 19:12-13, 39:1, 119:9-11,133, John 5:14, 8:11,
Romans 6:1-2, 11-13, 17-18, Ephesians 2:1-3, 8-10,
Titus 2:11-14, 1 Peter 4:1-4, 1 John 3:4-10

Let it never be, my beloved brethren, that you and I surrender and yield ourselves to sin, yes, we live in a body of sin, our hearts are deceitful above all things and desperately wicked! But let us never agree with the old man, which is corrupt! We come to the Lord's Supper and saints, not sinners!