

You Know When It's Real

WALKING IN THE LIGHT (1 John 1:5-2:6)

There are three approaches to sin:

I. We can try to _____ our sins. (1 John 1:5-6, 8, 10)

How do Christians cover up their sins?

A. By _____ the nature of God (1 John 1:5)

- Light produces _____ and _____ and _____, but sin is _____.

“I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the Light of life.” (John 8:12)

- Two foundational principles:

1. Light represents the truth of God, as embodied in the His Word

“The unfolding of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.” (Psalm 119:130)

2. Light links to a life of virtue and moral conduct

“You were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth).” Ephesians 5:8-9

B. By _____ our sins (1 John 1:6)

C. By _____ a self-deceived life (1 John 1:8)

D. By _____ our sins (1 John 1:10)

II. We can _____ our sins. (1 John 1:7, 9)

A. A belief in God's _____ of sin.

“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.” (1 John 1:7)

B. A regular practice of _____ sins.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9)

- The word **confess** (*homologeō*) means “to say the same thing (about).”

“He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.” (Proverbs 28:13)

III. We can _____ our sins. (1 John 2:1-6)

“My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin.” (1 John 2:1)

A. The Divine Defense Attorney

*“And if anyone sins, we have an **Advocate** with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.”* (1 John 2:1b)

- **Advocate** *parakletos* means *one who comes alongside* and denotes in legal settings the defender or counselor who comes to aid his client.

B. A Perfect Propitiation

*“And He Himself is the **propitiation** for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.”* (1 John 2:2)

- **Propitiation** means *appeasement* or *satisfaction*.

“In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” (1 John 4:10)

C. Living in the Light

- The secret of victory over sin is to “_____.” (1 John 1:7)

Walking (living) in the light involves...

1. Being open, honest and sincere

- The word **sincere** comes from two Latin words, *sine* and *cera* which mean *without wax*.

2. Obeying God's Word (1 John 2:3-5a)

“Thy word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path.” (Psalm 119:105)

3. Following Christ's Example (1 John 2:5b-6)

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.” (John 15:4-5)