

Freedom from the Penalty of Sin

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Introduction

"Man centered" message has produced "fantasy Christians"

Two problems:

1. Those who have made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ have little zeal in their daily lives. **Titus 2:14** Most (80%) can be characterized as "lukewarm".
Revelation 3:15-16
2. Those who have not made profession of faith in Jesus Christ see no reason to do so. **1Corinthians 1:18**

Solution

Understanding the Penalty of Sin – a "wrath-fleeing" message.

Illustration - Two men in an airplane wearing parachutes (1)

What is sin?

Sin is any thought, word, or deed that falls short of God's standard of holiness and perfection. (2)

Romans 3:23 All fall short of God's Glory
1 John 3:4 Sin is lawlessness
James 4:17 Sins of omission
Romans 14:23 Whatever is not from faith is sin.

Horizontal vs Vertical Sin

*David – I have sinned against the Lord - **2 Samuel 12:13***
*Joseph – How could I ...sin against God – **Genesis 39: 9***
*Prodigal Son – I have sinned against heaven – **Luke 15:21***

Illustration – Sheep on a hillside

What is the penalty of sin?

Ezekiel 18:4	<i>the soul that sins shall die</i>
Romans 1:18	<i>God's wrath revealed</i>
1 Corinthians 15:56	<i>sting of death is sin</i>
Revelation 20:15	<i>lake of fire</i>
Matthew 22:13	<i>outer darkness</i>

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Examples of using the penalty of sin (WWJD vs WDJD)

Luke 18:18 - Parable of the rich young ruler

Romans 2:14-15 - Everyone has a moral conscience

Romans 3:19-20 - every mouth may be closed

Illustration – Dust on the table

John 3:18 - he who does not believe has been judged already

Freedom from the penalty of sin

Galatians 3:24-25 - a tutor to lead us to Christ....no longer under a tutor

Galatians 5:1 - Christ has set us free

John 5:24 - free from the judgment

Conclusion

Illustration – Spilling Hot Coffee

Illustration – The Law is a Mirror

Acts 13:38-39 freed from all things

Galatians 2:16 not justified by the works of the Law

Resources and References

1. To hear "Hell's Best Kept Secret" go to www.raycomfort.com/hbks/index.shtml
2. Believer's Bible Commentary by William MacDonald