

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 102

God's Overflowing Grace
Conquers the Reign of Sin
Part 2



2017

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never personally believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior; you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sins of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. *(Acts 16:31)* "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." *(John 3:16)* "God loved the world so much that He gave us One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."



LESSON



Last time we learned about "the course of this world" in [Eph 2:2](#) and what it is for all unbelievers: arrogance, corruption, deception, blindness to the Truth of God's Word, destruction, judgment, and death. Not good, right? Sounds hopeless, right? We learned IT IS NOT hopeless because of God, our Father's love and plan and Jesus Christ who saved us and delivered us out from this slavery when we believed in Him.

Before we go any further, let's look at [Eph 2:1-2](#): [Eph 2:1](#) "As for you, you were (spiritually) dead in your transgressions and sins, (2) in which you (believers) formerly walked (**as unbelievers**) **according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air**, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience (unbelievers).

And the 'course of this world' is ACCORDING TO THE PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR. Gee, who has that kind of power and who is that? Well, kids, it's none other than the devil or Satan himself. He is the present ruler of the world. He gained that power and ruler ship when Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden.

And to top it all, the devil is pure evil and he hates God. He wants sin to reign in your life even as a believer. You're saying this doesn't sound good, right? Well it isn't good but guess what...

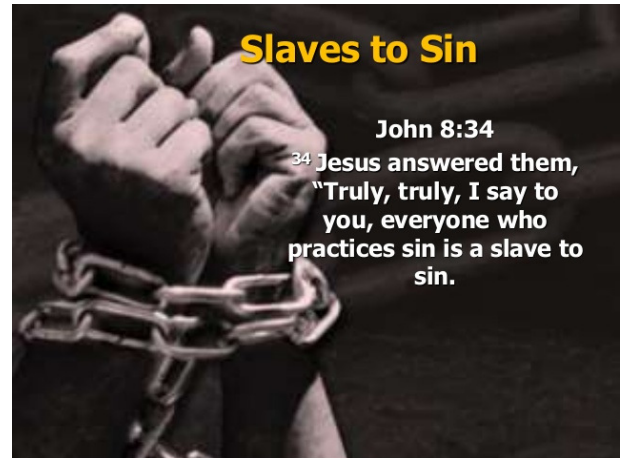


SATAN



GOD HAS IT ALL IN HAND...HE SOLVED THIS PROBLEM...SO NO WORRIES FOR BORN AGAIN BELIEVERS. It is the unbeliever that has this problem...seriously.

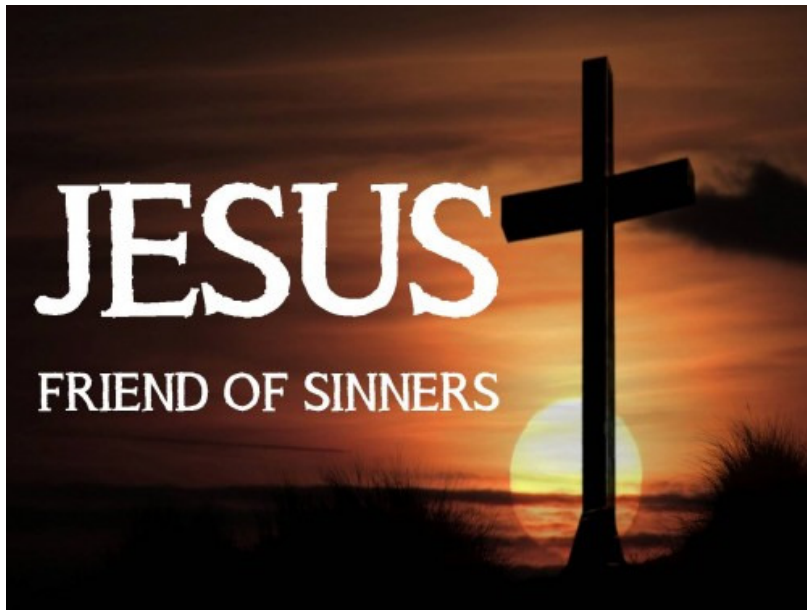
Here is how we used to live before we were born again: manifestation of sin in our bodies! Yes, we were slaves to our flesh which carries the sin nature. Our flesh and minds were completely controlled by sin. This is a disaster for unbelievers! [Eccl 8:11](#) "...the hearts of the sons of men (unbelievers) among them are given fully to do evil."



They don't have a choice. They are slaves to sin and sin reigns in the lives of all unbelievers. What does this look like? [Matt 15:18-20](#) tells us, "But the things that proceed out of the mouth (of unbelievers) come from the heart, and those ruin the man. (19) For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness and slanders. (20) These are the things which ruin the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not ruin the man."

This has previously been described for us in the book of [Romans](#) as well in chapters 1-3. [Rom 1:28-32](#) "And just as they (unbelievers) did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a wicked mind, to do those things which are not proper, (29) being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, trouble, deceit, malice; they are gossips, (30) slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, (31) without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; (32) and although they know the rules of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give enthusiastic approval to those who practice them.

Let's see it again in chapter 3: [Rom 3:9-18](#) "What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks (Gentiles) are all under sin; (10) as it is written: "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE; (11) THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS,



THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD; (12) ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE. (13) THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE, WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING, THE POISON OF SNAKES IS UNDER THEIR LIPS; (14) WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS; (15) THEIR FEET

ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD, (16) DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS, (17) AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN. (18) THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES."

We see it in Eph 4:17-19. "So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles (unbelievers) do, in the uselessness of their thinking. (18) They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. (19) Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more."

Eph 25-31 "Therefore each of you must put off lying and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body (of Christ). (26) In your anger do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, (27) and do not give the devil a foothold. (28) He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need. (29) Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. (30) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (31) Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice."

Eph 5:3-6 "But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. (4) Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. (5) For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a man is an idolater—has any inheritance (reward) in the kingdom of Christ

and of God. (6) Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient."

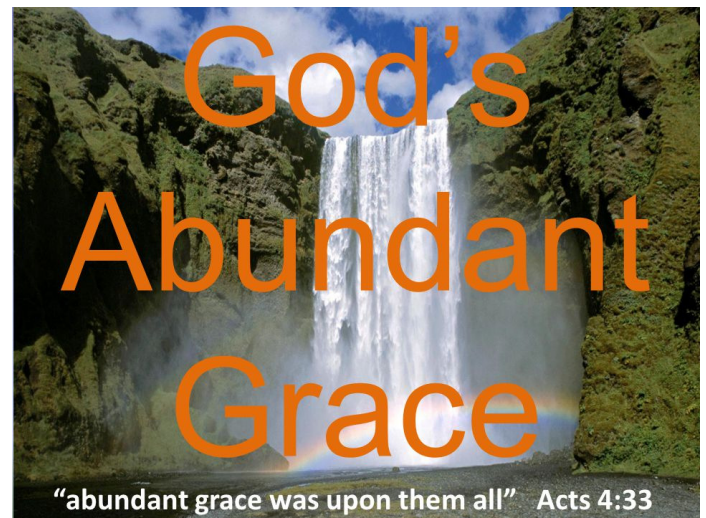
So now you see what this reign of sin is like for unbelievers who are in Adam. It is COMPLETE DOMINATION...SLAVERY to sin! The lives of the lost are completely directed by sin. The lives of the lost are totally immersed in sin. The lives of the lost are captured by sin.



Now let's look at the other side of the reign of sin. The REIGN OF GRACE is the total opposite and WAY BEYOND the level of sin in the lives of the saints...believers in Jesus.

God is more powerful than the devil and He conquered the sin problem by sending His only Son, Jesus to solve the sin problem once and for all.

Let's see what the Bible says about how God solved the sin problem with His grace for believers. Rom 5:20-21 "The (Mosaic) Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, **grace abounded all the more**, (21) so that, **as** sin reigned in (spiritual) death (separation from God), **even so** grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."



The force of grace in our lives is much stronger than the force of sin and death ever has been in the life of any unbeliever.

Sin exhausts itself at the death of the person, but grace is endlessly life giving, all the way through eternity.

The most power sin ever exhibited in the life of any person, the darkest despair, the greatest grief, the most terrible evil, sin has done all it can possibly do to destroy the human race. We can all agree to that fact, right?



Lives are torn apart by war, lives are destroyed by violence, the horrors of neglect, the destructive power of anger, of guilt, of fear, the brutality of arrogance, the viciousness of vengeance, the cruelty of the tongue, the deceitfulness of lies, the bottomless pit of greed, the robbery of addiction, the insatiable nature of lust, the fury of jealousy, the sting of betrayal, the cold death of rejection, the soul shaking of false religion and idolatry, the loss of faith, the snuffing out of hope, and the denial of love.

And the worst thing sin EVER DID by far was CRUCIFYING the Lord of life, Jesus Christ. [Acts 3:14-15](#) "But you disowned the Holy and Righteous One (Jesus) and asked for a murderer (Barabbas) to be granted to you, (15) but put to death the Prince of life (Jesus), the One whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we are witnesses (the Apostles)."

The wages of sin is (spiritual and physical) death. What was the worst sin could do? The worst sin could EVER do was to put the Son of God to death...the death of the cross! Sin couldn't do anything more horrible than that. But sin lost its power at the cross because of Jesus' sacrifice. Sin was nailed to the cross. [Col 2:14](#) "(God the Father) by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He (God the Father) set aside, nailing it (sin) to the cross.



Jesus solved the sin problem and its reign over mankind. Read [Rom 6:6-14](#) very carefully. See what Jesus has done for all but especially for those of us who believe in Him! "For we know that our old self (our sin nature) was crucified with Him (Jesus) so that the body of sin (in our flesh) might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin (7) because anyone who has died (believers) has been freed from sin (by Jesus' work on the cross). (8) Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. (9) For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead,

He cannot die again; death no longer has power over Him. (10) The death He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life He lives He lives to God. (11) In the same way, count yourselves (believers only) dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. (12) Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. (13) Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to Him as instruments of righteousness (live like Jesus lived) (14) for sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law (of sin), but under (God's) grace."

2 Cor 5:14-15, 17 "For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that One (Jesus) has died for all, therefore all have died; (15) and He (Jesus) died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised. (17) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away (sin no longer reigns in the life of the believer); behold, the new has come (abundant grace for believers)."



Then God highly exalted Christ. Now GRACE REIGNS through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord! Rom 5:20-21 "The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, **grace abounded all the more**, (21) so that, **as** sin reigned in death, **even so** grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

The negative power of the reign of sin and all it holds CANNOT compare to the positive power of the grace of God made visible and given to believers in Christ Jesus our Lord!!!

Whatever may be true about sin, and what sin has done to mankind, what God has done by His grace through Jesus Christ is infinitely greater! This is great news...believe it!

Close in prayer.

