



Winning the Mind Wars

Part 7—Sinner’s Identity and Sinner’s Penalty (Shame and Condemnation)

Review

- Series on winning the mind wars we all battle. If we lose the mind wars we lose life Jesus came to give us. Our thought life is that important!
 - Proverbs 23:7
 - What you do with the thoughts you think determines who you are and what you do.
 - Romans 12:2
 - Your life will only be as transformed as your mind is renewed by God’s truth.
 - 2 Corinthians 10:4-5
 - We have spiritual weapons at our disposal, from God, to pull down strongholds, cast down arguments and everything that would exalt itself above God’s truth.
- **Stronghold:** A satanic lie, a generational mindset or a human wounding that you have listened to long enough, believed strongly enough, and owned deeply enough that it becomes part of your identity. It has fortified itself in you and dictates your thoughts, beliefs, actions and reactions. It is an unholy filter through which all thoughts pass.

Sinner’s Identity

- The stronghold that says, “I’m a sinner” and leads to “shame and condemnation.”
- Sinner’s identity is a “before Christ” identity.
 - Nowhere in the New Testament is a Believer identified or referred to as a sinner. It has nothing to do with our new identity on Christ.
 - 1 Timothy 1:15. The context is Paul’s “before Christ” lifestyle, Paul calls himself a “saint” in Ephesians 3:8.
 - James 4:8 A sinner is dead faith, “A term used for unbelievers.”¹ John MacArthur
 - Sixty times, from Acts to Revelation, Believers are referred to as “saints” (holy ones, pure, blameless).
 - Why is identity so important?
 - You do what you believe you are! Proverbs 23:7
 - We are saints who occasionally sin, not sinners who occasionally saint!
- The notion of Sinner's identity comes from **ignorance** (not knowing) of all that **Jesus came to do for us** or some sense of **false humility**. Both of those notions need to go!

Sinner’s Penalty—Shame and Condemnation

¹ John MacArthur, *The MacArthur Bible Commentary*, (Nashville, Thomas Nelson, Inc, 2005), E-book edition

- Sinner's Identity is a "before Christ" identity, Shame and Condemnation is a "before Christ" penalty. Shame and condemnation have no part of our new life in Jesus!
 - John 3:17-18
 - God sent Jesus to save us from our condemned status as unbelievers. In Jesus, we are saved from a sinner's identity and sinner's penalty!

When Believers have heart attacks:

- 1 John 3:20
 - If our heart or mind condemns us, God is greater than a condemning heart or mind, He knows what He's done for us, He knows who we are in Jesus.
 - When our heart or mind try to condemn us, we will live with unnecessary shame and condemnation If we don't know that God is greater than they are.

Sources of shame and condemnation

- Sinful things you've done in your past (beating yourself up).
- Sinful things of which the devil reminds or accuses you (him beating you up).
- What's been done to you that you were told was your fault (abusers beating you up).
- What Jesus did for us and who He calls us, saves us from these things.

Five Doctrines that Deliver from a Sinners Identity and a Sinners Penalty

1. Salvation—rescued, delivered, made whole, forgiven

- Romans 1:16
- Ephesians 2:8-9
- God's power, grace and gift saved us from Sinner's Identity and Sinner's Penalty. Salvation is a done deal, and we need to believe that!

2. Sanctification—to be made holy in God's sight

- Hebrews 10:10
- Hebrews 10:14
 - Our holy, sanctified position before God was settled once and for all through the offering of Jesus. We have been perfected forever in God's sight, while we are growing in holiness as we walk with Jesus. We have been and are being sanctified.
- 1 Corinthians 1:2
- There's no room for a sinner's identity or a sinner's penalty with shame and condemnation. We are a sanctified saint and we are holy, not condemned!

3. Justification—to be declared innocent, and blameless, treated "Just-as-if-I've-never-sinned."

- Romans 5:1
- Romans 5:8-9
- God loved us while we were sinners. How much more does He love us now that we have become justified saints! There isn't any room for guilt, shame, or condemnation! In Christ we are holy and innocent!

4. Reconciliation—Jesus brought us fully into friendship with God ("at-one-ment") with Him.

- Colossians 1:21

- John 15:15
- John 17:21
- Our friendship and “at-one-ment” with God doesn’t afford us a Sinner's Identity or Sinner's Penalty! Is Christ a sinner? Will Christ be condemned? No! And we are one with Him.

5. Identification—who I am in Christ

- 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Colossians 1:21–22
- Note: Reconciliation, sanctification, justification, salvation are all a part of our new identification in Christ!
- These five doctrines are so all-encompassing and overflowing the only way to make room for shame and condemnation is to disregard the work of Jesus and who He says we already are.

Sinner’s Identity, Shame and Condemnation Prescriptive Prayer

Father, I know that I am what I am because of Your grace alone (1 Corinthians 15:10).

It’s not because of my own works or effort. (Ephesians 2:8).

My boast is in Jesus Christ alone (Galatians 6:14).

Thank You for my salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Thank You for my sanctification (Hebrews 10:10,14).

Thank You for my justification (Romans 5:1).

Thank You for my reconciliation (Colossians 1:21).

Thank You for my identification (2 Corinthians 5:17).

I am a saint.

I am the righteousness of God in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:21).

I am the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13).

I am the light of the world (Matthew 5:14).

I am a child of God (Galatians 3:26).

I’ve been made one with God (John 17:21).

God calls me friend (John 15:15).

I know and believe that I am blessed, chosen, holy, blameless, loved, adopted, accepted, favored, redeemed, forgiven and sealed with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:3-11).

I know and believe I have been made alive in Christ and raised to sit in heavenly places in Christ, far above all demonic power (Ephesians 2:5-6).

I know and believe I have direct access to You Father (Ephesians 2:18).

I know and believe that my inheritance is guaranteed and that I am a fellow citizen with the other saints in the household of God (Ephesians 1:11, 2:19).

Because I’m in Christ I’m not condemned now or ever (Romans 8:1).

Because I’m in Christ, there is no valid, condemning charge against me (Romans 8:33-34).

Because I’m in Christ, there is no shame I’ll own, wear, or ever be put to (Romans 10:11).

I renounce the identity of “sinner.” I renounce shame and condemnation.

I repent of believing lies that have held me back and kept me looking down.
I believe I am everything God says I am from this day forward, and forever more, in Jesus Name, Amen!