

#32

KILLER SINS

Victory through
Love and Obedience

POWER

- ✓ For victory over killer sins.
- ✓ For spiritual growth.

IN THE LIVES OF GOD'S PEOPLE:

Two forces are at work **TOGETHER**,
and **TOGETHER** they **GUARANTEE ULTIMATE VICTORY**.

THESE FORCES ARE...

FORCE #1

GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

✓ What God is doing in our lives.

↓

FOCUSES ON...

✓ Our "Position" in Christ; the changes that God has made in our nature.

FORCE #2

HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY

✓ What we are doing in our lives.

↓

FOCUSES ON...

✓ Our "Practice" in life; the changes that we are making in our conduct.

KILLER SINS

OBVIOUSLY, GOD HAS POWER. I KNOW HE CAN DO HIS PART.

I'M A MISERABLE FAILURE!

BUT WHAT ABOUT ME? I'M ABOUT AS WEAK AS THEY COME!

ACTUALLY, ALL OF GOD'S PEOPLE HAVE BEEN **UNITED WITH CHRIST**.

WE NEED TO **REPENT** WHEN WE FAIL TO ACCEPT HIS **FREE HELP**.

CHRIST OFFERS TO **HELP US DO OUR PART!!**

✓ **YES, WE HAVE POWER** – But **ONLY** because of Christ in us.

I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me.

Philip. 4:13 (GW)

✓ **YES, WE ARE WEAK** – But it reveals the greatness of HIS power in us!

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Cor. 12:9-10 (NIV)

GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

GOD is doing his part, using his mighty **power!**

HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY

I am doing my part, because of Christ's **power** within me!

MY SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS GUARANTEED!!

GROW!!

GROW!!

TODAY: WE BEGIN LOOKING AT OUR "RESPONSIBILITY."

→ GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY → HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY

BE AWARE: This focus does NOT negate the truthfulness of God's role in our lives. Both are equally true.

We need to focus on our part, aware that God will do his part... and will make us capable of doing our part.

WE WILL BE LOOKING AT

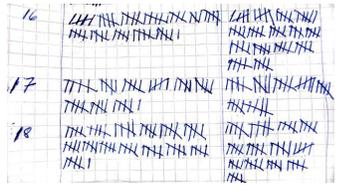


➤ Various commands and instructions related to victory over the killer sin "I crave."

➤ These verses focus on our responsibility to OBEY them.

HOWEVER... →

OUR GOAL IS NOT: "OBEDIENCE FOR OBEDIENCE'S SAKE"



LOOK AT ALL MY OBEDIENCE!

NEXT WEEK, I PLAN TO DO EVEN BETTER!

RATHER, OUR GOAL IS ... "OBEDIENCE BECAUSE WE LOVE JESUS"!!!

LOVE AND OBEDIENCE GO TOGETHER!

➤ Love is a command we must obey!

He answered: " 'Love the Lord your God ...'; and, 'Love your neighbor ...'"

Luke 10:27 (NIV)

➤ It is also the motivation for obeying!

"If you love me, you will obey my commandments."

John 14:15 (GW)

WHAT TYPE OF LOVE IS THIS?

➤ IT IS NOT:

- an emotion (though emotions may sometimes accompany it).
- based on circumstances or on what we can get.

➤ IT DOES NOT NATURALLY OCCUR WITHIN PEOPLE.

➤ IT INVOLVES:

- loyalty
- commitment.

➤ IT COMES FROM GOD.

We love, because He first loved us.

1 John 4:19 (NASB)

GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY

GOD loves us. He has put his love in our hearts!

Because of that, we love both God and neighbor!

LOVE !!

MY SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS GUARANTEED!!

LOVE !!

LOVE and OBEDIENCE –
Many verses link them together!

👉 VERSES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT 👈

"If you carefully **obey** all the commands I am giving you today, and if you **love** the Lord your God with all your heart and soul, and if you worship him, ..."
 Deut. 11:13 (NLT)

"**Love** the LORD your God, follow all his instructions, **obey** his commands, be loyal to him, and serve him with all your heart and being!"
 Joshua 22:5b (NET)

(MORE VERSES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT)

"O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps his covenant of unfailing love with those who **love** him and **obey** his commands, ..."
 Neh. 1:5b (NLT)

I **obey** your decrees and **love** them greatly.
 Psalm 119:167 (CSB)

I prayed to the Lord my God and confessed:
 "O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with all who **love** him and **obey** his commands, ..."
 Daniel 9:4 (NIV)

👉 VERSES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT 👈

"If you **love** me, you will **obey** my commandments."
 John 14:15 (GW)

Jesus replied, "If anyone **loves** me, he will **obey** my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and take up residence with him."
 John 14:23 (NET)

This is **love** for God: to **obey** his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ...
 1 John 5:3 (NIV)

AND IF YOU DON'T OBEY JESUS?
 There are verses about you, as well.

➤ About your love for Jesus ...

A person who doesn't love me doesn't do what I say.
 John 14:24a (GW)

➤ About your eternal destiny ...

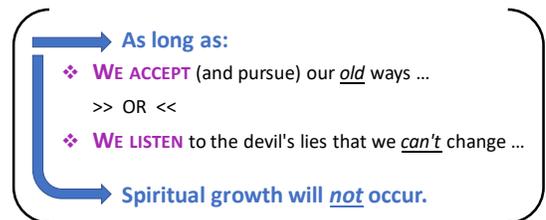
If anyone does not love the Lord, let him be accursed. O Lord, come!
 1 Co 16:22 (LEB)

WHERE does it all start?

WITH REPLACEMENT OF OUR OLD WAYS OF THINKING!



We need God's new way of thinking,
 WHICH PAUL DESCRIBES AS
 "DEVELOPING A RENEWED MIND."



THE PURSUIT OF A RENEWED MIND

It's the **ONLY** way we can have the **OBEDIENCE** that **LOVE** for God desires.

- Replacing **OLD** ways of thinking with **NEW** ones

Do not be conformed to this world, but continually be **transformed** by the **renewing** of your minds ...
Romans 12:2a (ISV)
- This change in **THINKING** will enable a change in **VALUES, ATTITUDE** and **CONDUCT**.

... so that you may be able to determine what God's will is—what is proper, pleasing, and perfect.
Romans 12:2b (ISV)

The Bible's "LOVE" **REQUIRES** this changed way of thinking.

☞ **WE MUST STOP DOING WHAT COMES NATURAL.**

Don't love the world and what it offers. Those who love the world don't have the Father's love in them.
1 John 2:15 (GW)

DON'T WANT TO STOP? THIS IS WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT YOU.

☞ **SUCH A CHANGE BEGINS IN THE MIND!**

Keep your **mind** on things above, not on worldly things.
Col. 3:2 (GW)

"Following Jesus" **REQUIRES** this changed way of thinking.

- It's needed for becoming **more like Christ**.

And we ... are being **transformed** into his likeness with ever-increasing glory...
2 Cor. 3:18 (NIV)

[You] have put on the new self, which is being **renewed in knowledge** in the image of its Creator.
Col. 3:10 (NIV)
- It gives **encouragement** when the way gets difficult.

That is why we are not discouraged. Though outwardly we are wearing out, inwardly we are **renewed** day by day.
2 Cor. 4:16 (GW)

THERE MAY BE "Ups" AND "Downs" ALONG THE WAY.
BUT LONG-TERM SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS GUARANTEED.

WHAT ABOUT **EMOTIONS**?

The starting point must be the mind, not the emotions. We must replace error with truth, not feelings.

Emotions often change when circumstances change – and sometimes for no apparent reason.

We must learn to develop godly emotions. This requires use of the mind and submission of emotions to the truth of Scripture.

Why am I discouraged?
 Why so sad?
 I will put my hope in God!
 I will praise him again—
 my Savior and my God!
Psalms 42:11 (NLT)

EMOTIONS

USE OF MIND TO MODIFY EMOTIONS

THIS WEEK:

Consider this fact:

⇒ **Those who LOVE Jesus**
want a RENEWED MIND,
which makes OBEDIENCE possible.

And we give **GOD** the credit, because...
GOD MADE ALL THIS POSSIBLE!

Credits (1)

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