Flee from sin

Shalom.

Welcome to study the Bible and be reminded of the truths we've already learned. The one thing that we as God's people must fear above all in our times today is sin. We are not to fear demons, witches, or even Satan himself. What we must fear first and foremost is sin.

Because sin is the doorway to all those other things.

Therefore, with all our strength and all our efforts, we must avoid sin. And we avoid sin by fleeing from it—meaning, we must leave it behind at any cost.

The Holy Spirit is called the Helper in the Bible —

> "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever." *(John 14:16, ESV)*

Do you understand what a helper is? A helper is someone who assists you in doing something you have already begun doing. He is not the one doing the task for you; he adds strength to what you've already started doing.

So when we get saved and receive the Holy Spirit into our lives, His work is not to forcefully prevent us from sinning—not at all! That is not His role. His work is to help us overcome sin! He gives us counsel; He gives us reasons why we shouldn't do the bad and should do the good. And when we obey His counsel within us, the desire to sin dies instantly. That's when we find ourselves living without committing sin. And the more you train yourself to obey Him, the more those sins continue to die inside you.

It's just like anything else—when you stop practicing something for a long time, you forget it and lose the experience of doing it. (The act of losing the experience is what it means to die to that thing.) Likewise, when you lose the habit of committing the sins you used to do, because you're now obeying the Holy Spirit, the experience fades and eventually disappears completely. You become dead to sin.

> “So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.” *(Romans 6:11, ESV)*

You become the kind of person who, no matter the circumstances, cannot commit fornication, cannot curse, cannot steal, cannot take bribes, cannot hate others, etc.

Now, the big problem many of us have is failing to understand the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We think that when He comes into us, He acts like a dictator who will destroy our sinful tendencies and stop us by force from sinning. Because of this misconception, many people find that when they receive the Holy Spirit and “relax,” they end up being defeated by sin and continuing in sinful lives. Then they begin to ask themselves why others are able to live in victory, but they are not.

Let me tell you: once you decide to follow the Lord Jesus by repenting of your sins—sins the Holy Spirit has made you aware of—the next step is to obey Him. And you don’t obey just by saying words like “I OBEY YOU, LORD” with your mouth. That is only the beginning of obedience. You must obey in action.

This means that if you were committing a certain sin, you leave it at once! You don’t go around asking for advice. You use all your mind, all your strength, and all your soul to leave it. And in this, you don’t even need to be prayed for.

For example, let’s take the sin of sexual immorality—which includes adultery, homosexuality, lesbianism, watching pornography, masturbation, etc. This sin cannot be cast out by prayer! Don’t go to a minister and say, “Pray for me to stop this sin or that sin.” There’s no such prayer! I’m telling you this because some of us were once like that—we thought prayer was the solution. We fasted and prayed but nothing changed—until we read the Scriptures, learned the truth, and the truth set us free.

> “And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” *(John 8:32, ESV)*

So, beloved, don’t waste your time doing research that others have already done and proven—otherwise, you’ll just go in circles and end up where you started.

The solution to sexual sin is to FLEE! Fleeing means walking away from that sin with no strings attached. It means if you're living with a man or woman in sin, you suddenly leave them and cut off the relationship! If they call you, tell them plainly that you are now saved and you both need to repent and return to God. If they don't understand, then save yourself—don't look back or feel pity. Don't answer their calls...

Don't try to reason with them while still meeting up and chatting. If they text you, don't reply—even if they cry tears of blood begging to reconcile, do not be moved. Save both your soul and theirs by fleeing from sexual immorality. If necessary, block the number. Don't talk to them at all.

Look at the example of Joseph. Potiphar's wife desired him, and once Joseph realized it, he stopped speaking to her.

> "And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her." *(Genesis 39:10, NIV)*

How can you say you want to stop fornication and still text and

talk with your sexual partners? How can you say you want to stop sexual immorality while still socializing with random men and women, watching lustful soap operas and movies that stir up passion on your TV? How can you say you want to stop watching porn while it’s still saved on your phone, and you’re still part of WhatsApp and Facebook groups with such content? Or say you want to stop drinking while you still have bottles of alcohol at home and hang out with drunkards?

The same applies to every other sin—the solution is to FLEE!

Leave! Some sins may even require you to move houses or neighborhoods. That’s the cost of abandoning sin. That is the cost of obeying the Holy Spirit.

If you don’t want to flee in that way and instead seek prayers or laying on of hands, you may end up being prayed for by everyone and still get possessed by even worse spirits. Your condition will get worse because you lacked the necessary knowledge.

> “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.” *(Hosea 4:6, ESV)*

Dear reader, you've heard/read this—you won't be able to say you were not warned on that day. If you obey the Holy Spirit today, He Himself will help you fulfill your resolve. But if you don't, the decision is yours. I hope you will obey, and may the Lord help you.

So, if you are not yet saved or you are lukewarm, you're at risk of being spit out. Before that happens, make a quick turnaround. Obey the Holy Spirit today by leaving sin at all cost. After abandoning sin, seek the proper baptism by immersion in water in the name of the Lord Jesus, as written:

> "Peter replied, 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" *(Acts 2:38, NIV)*

The same Holy Spirit who began a good work in your heart will help you accomplish what seemed impossible. Sin will no longer be hard to overcome because Christ's yoke is easy:

> “For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” *(Matthew 11:30, KJV)*

You will find joy, peace beyond understanding, and realize how far you were from the glorious life in Christ. Sin will no longer be appealing in any way.

God bless you.

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