

GO AND SIN NO MORE
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As manager of the North American division of Radio 74 Internationale, I receive letters of thanks and appreciation from all parts of the country. During the last 2-3 years I've been corresponding with inmates from two different correctional facilities who have found the Lord through listening to Radio 74. Two days ago I received a story from one of these inmates which illustrates how far he has come since his incarceration. I'd like to share with you his take on this story.

In John, chapter 8, we find the story of the woman who is caught in the act of adultery. The Scribes and Pharisees brought her to Jesus wanting to condemn her and stone her to death. They cited Moses' law and asked for Jesus' opinion. They were only using this as a way to tempt and accuse Jesus. Jesus ignored them, but after they continued asking, he finally told them, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her."

Jesus made it personal. It was no longer about the woman, but about the personal lives of the Scribes and Pharisees. They had no choice but to relinquish their stones and retreat. The woman was left alone with Jesus. Oh, what a place to be! Alone with the Lord where we can find true peace and victory!

He asked her "Woman where are thine accusers? Hath no man condemned thee?" (verse 10) She told him No. In verse 11, Jesus tells her "Neither do I condemn thee. Go, and sin no more." Jesus gave her the greatest command in the life of a Christian. We are alone with Christ, we are at the end of our rope, we are condemned, on our way to a sinner's hell. Jesus gives us love, He gives us forgiveness, He gives us power! Go, and sin no more! He didn't say to Go, and think about sinning no more, or Go, and sin only part of the time. He said "Go, and sin no more."

I see so many Christians in bondage. They are hanging onto their pleasures instead of giving their all to the Lord. In John 8:12, Jesus says: "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." What happens when you walk in darkness? You stumble. You fall. That's sin!

But when you allow the love of Jesus to overtake you, you are walking in the light. You can see where you are going and therefore you don't stumble or fall.

The apostle Paul stated in Romans 6:1-4, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin live any longer therein? Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized unto his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism unto death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." We are baptized with Christ's death. Therefore we are dead to sin; we are dead to our past. Christ arose from the grave, therefore proving victory over sin and death.

We too share in this new life if we trust in Christ, so we now walk as a new creature in Christ. How many Christians sing "Victory in Jesus" in church, but are "sinning with the best of them" afterwards? We must live what we believe, practice what we preach!

I love the example that John gives in I John 3:9, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin, for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin because he is born of God."

Friends, we must be willing to give up everything to Jesus in order to live a victorious and God-pleasing life. In Jesus there is no condemnation, no hatred, no sin; only life! **GO, AND SIN NO MORE!**

This vignette was written by a prison inmate who is being released in one month. He writes, "God has really blessed this 36-year-old, and I plan to praise Him and point others to him." May God go with him as he lives a new life in Jesus Christ, his Saviour and Redeemer.