

## Sin against God and or Despising the Lord

The two main reasons and the greatest reasons and motivations why we don't want to sin.

We need reasons greater than any other reason, motivation (Drive). We need something bigger than ourselves.

- i) Gen 39:9-10—Sin against the Lord. Not sin against man or Potiphar but against God (2Sam 12:13, Psalm 51:4; Luke 15:18).
  - ii) 2Sam 12:9-10—Despises the Lord and His word.
- A. Genesis 39:9 “There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art is wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?”

There is no greater reason and motivation to avoid sin than not to sin against God. We need a reason and cause greater than ourselves not to sin. That greater cause can only be that when we sin, we are sinning against God. Anything less than that will not keep us from sinning, committing wickedness.

Reasons like: I will hurt people, I will be caught, I will lose my job, I will get divorced, I will catch STDs, and so forth, will not forever keep you from compromise and staying away from sin. These are all temporal measures. These reasons are like a Band-Aid on a wound. It does not heal the wound but only covers it.

Most people evaluate sin based on what damage and harm it will do to others or ourselves, but the fundamental basis should be that it is sin and a great wickedness against the Lord God. Although the damage of sin is a valid cause not to sin, it should not be the primary reason not to sin. If there were no consequences, most people would go all in to sin. We will reap what we sow (Galatians 6:7-8), and Jeremiah 2:19. We should do the right thing, whether or not we are caught, we reap or not; if it hurts others and

ourselves or not. The fear, love, honor, and respect for God should drive or motivate us. That's the proper attitude that we should have.

If something is wrong in God's eyes, it doesn't matter if other people feel it's okay; it is still wrong. God's opinion is higher and better than any man's.

Those who esteem the word, thoughts, and opinion of God more than the opinion of anyone else have a moral code that is established and grounded and will hold like an anchor, regardless of the pressures that come against them. Joseph valued God's opinion above anything else; that's why he responded the way he did and refused to give in to the ungodly pressures of this woman. Joseph was the very definition of a man of character. We should develop our relationship with the Lord so that we will not compromise for anything.

The heart of the issue for Joseph not to sleep with Potiphar's wife was that it was a sin against God. Yes, it was also sinning against Potiphar, but Joseph had a greater and bigger cause than just his boss. He had an acute moral compass that he was willing to do what is right, regardless of whether someone is seeing or not. His lifestyle was unto the Lord, not unto men.

Colossians 3:22-24 says "Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eye service, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God: And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance; for ye serve the Lord Christ." That's the proper attitude that we should have. Joseph kept this verse well.

- B. 2 Samuel 12:9-10 "Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife."

The word "Despise" means to "Devalue or disesteem".

All sin is nothing but despising the Lord and His word. When David committed sin by taking his neighbor's wife and slaughtering her husband, and the Lord came to rebuke him through the Prophet Nathan, He said that David had despised the Lord and His commandment. David's key problem was despising the Lord, not committing adultery

and murder. If David had not despised the Lord, he would not have done such wickedness. Later in verse 13, he says that "And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD." Again, just like Joseph showed earlier, sin is a sin against that Lord.

He said he had sinned against the Lord, which is the same thing that Joseph said earlier that he could not do (Genesis 39:9). David, later in Psalms 51:5, "Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: David knew well and recognized that he had sinned against the Lord. I strongly believe that if this was the forethought of David, as was the case with Joseph, he would not have committed adultery and murder.

Lastly, the prodigal son said in Luke 15:18, "I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,"

We need to start treating sin as despising the Lord and/or sinning against the Lord, not just people only. When we despise the Word of God, we end up sinning against Him. Those who despise the word of God will always sin against the Lord.

How can we then stop this despising of the Lord, and how can we avoid sinning against the Lord?

- a) Psalm 119:11 "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."
- b) Joshua 1:8 "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."
- c) Psalm 1:1-3 "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."